

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNDER ATTACK

C.I.O. News

CIVIL liberties have taken a severe setback in the last year. Washington, D.C. Liberal and minority groups were thrown on the defensive, according to: *Mon. 9-8-47*

1. The American Civil Liberties Union, which, in an 80-page report, declared that "the optimism expressed by the ACLU for some years must today give way to a considerable measure of apprehension, especially justified skepticism concerning the immediate future of our democratic liberties as instruments of progress."

2. The Washington Post, which, in an article by Dillard Stokes, revealed that the U. S. Supreme Court, "in 12 significant civil rights cases, was conservative nine times, liberal three." The Post was again noting the change in the court's decisions since Fred M. Vinson was made Chief Justice.

Labor took a major setback during the year, the ACLU reported, is now in a "legal straitjacket" and is one of the chief victims of "militant conservatism and general retreat to the defense of the status quo."

ACLU highlighted its report with comment on the Taft-Hartley Law, which it called "a major legislative victory in the drive to tame the power of the trade unions in industry and to weaken them in politics." Many sections of T-H, the report declared, "clearly violate the principles of labor's rights."

ACLU offered to help the CIO and AFL in any legal tests of the law.

Other anti-labor activities ACLU said, included the Supreme Court's 5-3 decision upholding the Lea (anti-Petrillo) Act; State legislation against the closed shop; State referenda on union financial statements; the New Jersey "emergency" law against the telephone workers' strike, and the New York Condon-Wadlin Law, barring strikes by all public employees, signed by Gov. Dewey over the protests of labor.

Other major setbacks to civil liberties included: four lynchings;

the acquittal in South Carolina of 28 "confessed lynchings"; a Supreme Court decision extending the legality of searches without proper warrants; the President's order for "dangerously vague tests" of the loyalty of Federal employees and the "continued witch-hunting crusade of the irresponsible" House Un-American Committee.

Man. 9-8-47

ACLU, however, saw some gains in the year, including: placing of atomic energy control in civilian hands; appointment of a Presidential commission to consider amnesty for draft act violators; a federal court ban against segregation in California schools and the opening of the Boston Common to unrestricted free speech.

Minority Rights Still Main Issue

Afro-American Report on Nation Given by Civil Liberties Union

Sat. 9-6-47

CONGRESS BLAMED

Some Progress Noted in Spite of Terrorism

NEW YORK — Discrimination against racial minorities remained the most extensive and insistent challenge to American civil rights during the past year, according to the annual report of the American Civil Liberties Union published Sept. 12.

The 80 page pamphlet, "In Times of Challenge," declared that "in a year in which American liberties suffered a sharply unfavorable change, racial minorities continued to constitute the one section of our national life in which American democracy fails most signally to live up to its professions."

The reports review the civil rights developments concerning colored people, Japanese Americans, the Orientals, Mexican Americans and American Indians.

Wave of Violence Noted Increased violence and intimidation against colored persons in

the South, the ACLU observed, reflected "growing racial tensions born of more determined resistance to their advance."

In contrast to the relative absence of racial violence during the first post war year, the Union reported "a wave of violence headed by four brutal lynchings in which seven colored persons lost their lives."

The review cited the "scandalous acquittal" in South Carolina of 26 confessed lynchings of a taxi-driver, and the failure of Monroe County, (Ga.), grand jury to indict any members of an armed mob which killed four persons two of them women.

The Union offered public rewards in both cases.

Congress Blamed

"Major national advice tendencies," cited by the Union, were the failure of Congress to pass a fair employment practice measure, an anti-lynch bill or an anti-poll tax bill.

No major gains for minority racial rights were scored in the States.

A single setback to the white primary system was dealt by a Federal court in South Carolina, which held that of the State's repeal of all primary laws did not make the Democratic party a "private" club with the right to exclude colored people. The State Democratic Party has appealed.

Columbia Trial Results Notable

"The most notable racial court case of the year," according to the report, was the acquittal in Tennessee of all but four of the 31 colored persons charged at Columbia with conspiracy to defend themselves from a police raid on the colored district, in which they lived. One man was ultimately convicted and charges were dropped against three others. The case was handled by the NAACP. *Sat. 9-6-47*

Also cited in the Union's survey was its offer of \$500 rewards to check the burning of fiery crosses by the Ku Klux Klan in Southern California and to apprehend the arsonists who burned a colored veteran's home in Redwood City, Calif.

Legal Battle Still Being Fought

On the legal front, the report noted renewed attacks in several housing covenants, with the U.S. Supreme Court agreeing to review appeals from Michigan and Missouri Courts.

Also pending in the State courts end segregation in interstate transportation and in higher public education.

Among the few "bright spots" listed in a dark picture were:

A Congressional act admitting Chinese wives of American citizens as nonquota immigrants on

an equal basis with others; the first appointments in two South-ern States of colored persons to police forces;

Increasing public interracial meetings; the placing of colored players on two national league baseball teams; and the parole after 16 years of next to the last of the Scottsboro boys still in prison.

Japanese Faring Better

Japanese-Americans, the Union observed, showed an "unexpected degree of adjustment" aided by waning West Coast prejudice after the war-time evacuation years. The report found "no instances of open hostility" after the first returns to the West Coast.

A \$100 reward was paid by the Union for evidence leading to one conviction. While discrimination continued in a few trade unions, veterans's organizations, and in residential areas, a "decline in prejudice" was noted generally.

While few concrete advances in solving the problems faced by American Indians were noted, the Union cited as favorable developments; *Sat. 9-6-47*

The establishment of an Indian claims commission to settle rights under old treaties; a Supreme Court decision compensating the Oregon Tillamook tribe for land taken from them, based on their "historic occupancy"

A California Federal court decision banning segregation of Mexican-American children in public schools.

Court tests of Indians voting rights in New Mexico, brought by the Union, resulted in a trial court decision, upholding the State Constitution's denial of the suffrage to "Indians not taxed." An appeal will be filed.

Another case will be brought in Arizona testing the denial of the franchise to "wards of the state."

Still Seeking Goals

Future campaigns for the civil rights of minorities include Congressional action to abolish the poll tax, establish a federal fair employment practice committee, making lynching a Federal crime; and prohibit racial segregation in buses, trains, and airplanes. The Union warned that the fight to guarantee passage of these measures is likely to be waged under "inhospitable conditions."

In the face of what is termed "the discouragements of the moment," the Union pledged itself to "even grater vigilance and activity and on an even larger scene, in view of the far-flung obligations of the United States with their world-wide implications for the vindication of our democratic faith." *Sat. 9-6-47*

A special committee of the ACLU under the chairmanship of

SETBACK REPORTED FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

James New York N.Y.
Group's Pamphlet Lists Public's Dislike of Wartime Controls and Nationalist Trend

Wed. 9-3-47

Liberal and minority forces were thrown on the defensive during the last year, both domestically and internationally, the American Civil Liberties Union declared in a pamphlet report, published yesterday entitled "In Times of Challenge."

The eighty-page report dealt primarily with the setback to liberal forces within the United States and concluded:

"The optimism expressed by the union for some years in these annual reviews must today give way to a considerable measure of apparently justified scepticism concerning the immediate future of our democratic liberties as instruments of progress."

In a "balance sheet" for the year, listing the various actions of the Congress, state legislatures, courts and other agencies, the union mentioned forty-three favorable items against thirty unfavorable, but held the favorable were outweighed by "major adverse tendencies." *Fed. 9-3-47*

The report reviewed the public revulsion to continued wartime controls and the apparent desire, as expressed in the 1946 elections, to throw off "irritating shackles" and return "to the presumably sound leadership of private business."

"This tendency at home," it said, "combined with growing conflict with Soviet influence throughout the world, and corresponding decline in faith in the immediate prospects of the United Nations, produced an atmosphere increasingly hostile to the liberties of organized labor, the political left and many minorities."

"A general retreat to nationalism, militarism and defense of the status quo increasingly marked the country. Excitement, bordering on hysteria, characterized the public approach to any issue related to communism, accentuated by the

of unlimited public debate and the role of minorities on which our liberties so largely depend. "The concept that challenges to our institutions are to be met by extending democratic liberties is apparently alien to the thinking of our conservative statesmen," the report declared.

Looking into the future, the liberties union said that future campaigns for civil liberties were likely to be waged under "conditions not nearly so hospitable to the pro-

an Indian Claims Commission to settle many old grievances, the appointment of Presidential commissions to consider amnesty for draft act violators and for civil rights, a Federal court ban against racial segregation of children in California schools and the opening of Boston Common and California schools to unrestricted free speech.

The union listed among the gains for liberal forces the following: Placing the control of atomic energy in civilian hands, creation of

the Taft-Hartley law; Placing the control of atomic energy in civilian hands, creation of

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Report Cites Lynchings

Among the major unfavorable items, representing a setback to civil liberties, the report listed: Four lynchings, the acquittal in South Carolina of twenty-eight "confessed lynchings"; the enactment of the Taft-Hartley law; a United States Supreme Court decision approving the use of pub-

Civil Liberties Union's Report Takes Dim View

new york, n. y.
Civil liberties are taking a beating on both the domestic and international fronts and there isn't much hope that our statesmen and law makers will do anything about it soon. *Thurs. 9-4-47*
The American Civil Liberties Union, dedicated to the defense of the principles of the Bill of Rights for conservatives and progressives alike, describes the past year as one of minor gains and major losses. Its annual report sums up:

"In an era of confusion over domestic and foreign policies and of conflicting international pressures, it would be naive to expect that any experimental departures would be made from established institutions and practices. . . . The concept that challenges to our institutions are to be met by extending democratic liberties is apparently alien to the thinking of our conservative statesmen."

associated with them should be attacked. The political split in the government between a Democratic administration and a Republican Congress contributed to the growth of a cautious and conservative temper. The results in practical terms were to be expected."

Major Blows

The ACLU report, a pamphlet titled *In Times of Challenge*, lists the year's major blows to civil liberties thus:

¶ Four lynchings with one notorious acquittal of 28 confessed lynchers at Greenville, S. C.

¶ The Taft Hartley Law.

¶ Approval by the Supreme Court of the use of public funds for religious schools.

¶ A decision of the high court extending the legality of searches without warrants.

¶ The President's order for "dangerously vague" loyalty tests of Federal employees.

¶ The "continued witch-hunting crusade" of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

'General Retreat'

Thurs. 9-4-47

The report described an "atmosphere increasingly hostile to the liberties of labor, the political left and many minorities; a general retreat to nationalism, militarism and defense of the status quo."

"Excitement, bordering on hysteria, characterized the public approach to any issue related to Communism," the report said of the year. "In such an atmosphere of militant conservatism it was inevitable that practically all forces seeking reform should be blocked, and that even established liberties

Civil Rights Congress To Form Negro Rights Committee

daily world *Atlanta Ga*
Wed. 12-17-47

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The Civil Rights congress announced this week plans to create a CRC Committee on Negro rights "to implement the recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil rights as regards the democratic rights of the Negro people."

This announcement is included in "Statement on the Merger of the National Negro Congress with the Civil Rights Congress," issued by a joint committee of the two organizations upon authorization of the NNC National board and the CRC National Conference, both of which met in Chicago, Nov. 20-23.

Hailing the NNC-CRC merger "as an occasion for throwing its resources, even more fully than in the past, into the struggle for the democratic rights of the Negro people," the joint committee statement outlined the following plans for the immediate future.

1. Creation of a national Negro Rights committee of CRC; .
2. Organization of an anti-lynch crusade to Washington during February 1948;
3. Taking over the former NNC office (307 Lenox Avenue) as the Harlem office of the CRC of New York;
4. Invitations to NNC National board members to serve on the board of CRC;
5. Invitations to autonomous NNC local councils to become affiliates; and
6. Provision for transfer of NNC memberships to CRC without payment of additional fees.

The joint statement was signed for the National Negro congress, by Thelma Dale, acting secretary, Ernest Thompson and Doxey A. Wilkerson, members of the national board; and the Civil Rights congress by George Marshall, chairman of the board; Joseph Cadden, national executive secretary and Louis Colman, executive secretary of the New York Civil Rights congress.

Protest: PAUL ROBESON, Negro singer, said he would quit the theater and concert stage for two years to "talk up and down the nation against hatred and prejudice." Robeson announced his decision while he was marching in a Civil Rights Congress picket line in front of the American Theater in St. Louis in protest against segregation. "I must raise my voice," he said, "but not by singing pretty songs."

To Protect Civil Rights

Organization Points to Its Record, in Statement Denying Charges

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

I refer to a recent news story in THE TIMES reporting the opinion of the Friends of Democracy that the Civil Rights Congress is a "known Communist-front group" or "Communist-inspired."

I wish to deny that the Civil Rights Congress is inspired by or acts as a front for any political party, including the Communist party.

The Civil Rights Congress is concerned exclusively with the protection and advancement of civil rights in the United States, especially in behalf of all persecuted minority groups, be they racial, religious, labor or political. The value of the opinion of the Friends of Democracy can be judged by their gratuitous and wholly false imputation to us of attitudes in the broad field of foreign affairs, including attitudes toward the Soviet Union.

It would be almost impossible to distinguish between the technique of the Friends of Democracy and the more experienced but cruder practice of the Thomas-Rankin Committee on Un-American Activities. For years this committee has violated everything in the book of ordinary American decency, not to speak of its disregard for constitutional guarantees.

The Civil Rights Congress pleads guilty to defending the rights of labor, rather than displaying concern for the rights of management. Should it not be plain to most people whose rights are now under attack in Congress? We plead guilty to a readiness to defend and support all those victimized by the Thomas-Rankin committee; this means no shrinking from the most vigorous defense of Communists along with other anti-Fascists. History has already established the fact that the attack on Communists is the prelude to an attack against all democratic organizations and peoples.

Our successful campaign to keep Bilbo out of the Senate, our continuing fight against discrimination in the

South and our present campaign to abolish the Un-American Activities Committee all speak for themselves. In the new national sport of red-hunting, we absolutely refuse to join; on the contrary, we will make every effort to reveal to our fellow-Americans the peril involved in such a chase.

MILTON KAUFMAN,
Executive Director.

New York, March 7, 1947.

Ban on Wallace, Robeson Scored

NEW YORK—The Civil Rights Congress last week urged more than 2,000 organizations and outstanding citizens throughout the country to protest to the governors of New York, Illinois and California the banning of public meeting places against Henry Wallace and Paul Robeson.

The Congress said of the bans against Robeson in Peoria, Ill. and Albany, N.Y., and Henry Wallace from the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles:

"It is the first brutally frank effect of the thought-control drive of the Thomas-Rankin Committee on Un-American Activities directed against the people as a whole and now reaching into the world of art and broad political discussion."

CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP CALLED RED 'FRONT'

Prominent Persons, Including Legislators, Listed in Report of House Committee

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (AP)—The House Committee on Un-American Activities described the Civil Rights Congress today as a Communist "front" organization engaged in "a campaign of vilification against the American Government."

The committee published what it identified as a list of the organization's original sponsors, including the names of one United States Senator, some present and past members of the House, and persons prominent in arts and professions.

In a formal report titled "Civil Rights Congress as a Communist Front Organization," the committee said:

"The Communist party has set up the Civil Rights Congress for

Civil Rights Congress

the purpose of protecting those of its members who run afoul of the law. This new project was founded at a conference held in Detroit on April 27-28, 1946, effectuating the merger of the International Labor Defense and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

"The latter organizations had been so badly discredited by repeated exposure as to injure their usefulness in the newly envisaged campaign of Communist lawlessness."

Communists Not Identified

In listing the purported sponsors of the organization the committee made no effort to identify the various persons as Communists and did not say whether they were brought into the organization by misunderstanding or misrepresentation of its aims.

The report printed what was represented as the program and the document calling the organization meeting of the Congress in April, 1946. These papers identified among the "sponsors":

Senator Glen H. Taylor, Democrat, of Idaho; Representative Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Democrat, of New York; former Representative Hugh Delacy, Democrat, of Washington; Ellis E. Patterson, Democrat, of California; William A. Rowan, Democrat, of Illinois, and Charles R. Savage, Democrat, of Washington; Susan B. Anthony 2d, secretary, Congress of American Women; Dr. Rufus E. Clement, president, Atlanta University; Ring W. Lardner Jr., Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Prof. F. O. Matthieson, Harvard University.

Also Lee Pressman, CIO general counsel; Prof. A. M. Schlesinger, Harvard; Prof. Walter Rautenstrauch, Columbia University; Prof. Ralph E. Wager, Emory University; James H. Wolfe, justice of the Utah Supreme Court; Representative Donald C. Teigland, Illinois State Legislature, and Representative Charles W. Anderson, Kentucky State Legislature.

The list identified as the "initiating committee" included the name of Representative Vito Marcantonio, American Labor, of New York; Clark Foreman, president, Southern Conference for Human Welfare; James G. Patton, president, National Farmers Union, and Edward G. Robinson, actor.

Scores of Names Listed

Among those who had "supported" or aided the Civil Rights Congress the committee listed Dashiell Hammett, Rockwell Kent and Paul Robeson. The report embodied scores of names in various lists of persons who may have been associated in some way with the organization.

In some cases, the report said, the "enormous financial income" of the organization has been "secured

on the basis of a spurious appeal in behalf of civil liberty."

The committee concluded:

"It has been a time-honored Communist tactic to set up a hue and cry for civil liberties precisely at the moment when boldest attacks upon democracy are intended."

"Invariably this appeal finds a response among Communist sympathizers, and ingenuous professional bleeding hearts, who would rather sacrifice the interests of their country than do violence to the Communist conception of civil liberties as applied to the United States. For some curious reason these standards are never applied to any territory under the Communist dictatorship."

Some of those mentioned denied connections with the Civil Rights Congress. Many could not be reached for comment.

At his home at Ausable Forks, N. Y., Mr. Kent said:

"My feelings would be hurt if my name had been omitted from that distinguished list. I am working in every way that I can to protect that way of life which I, an American, consider to be the American way of life and I will support any organization that is working for the things that I believe in."

Professor Schlesinger, said in Boston: "I withdrew my name from that organization before its first meeting in Detroit. I gave no reason and do not care to now."

Dr. Foreman said at Highlands, N. C., that the committee—he described it as the "Republican-dominated Un-American Committee"—called everyone who attacked it a Communist. Every organization striving to protect civil rights is doing a patriotic job for all of us, he said, adding:

"The grave abuses of power by the Un-American Committee should warn all of us of the totalitarianism which will come if we do not fight effectively now to save the American system."

CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP DENIES RED CHARGE

Congress Committee Report Called Part of Rankin Drive to Get Bilbo's Seat

The attack on the Civil Rights Congress as a Communist front organization, issued in Washington Saturday by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, brought a counter-attack from the Civil Rights Congress yesterday.

"This so-called report is nonsense, as usual," the congress said in a statement issued from its headquarters, 205 East Forty-second Street. "It is a potpourri of hearsay, falsification of fact and hostility to the processes of democracy. This report is presumably a campaign document for Representative Rankin [John E. Rankin of Mississippi] in his announced candidacy for the seat of the late Senator Bilbo. It is not at all impossible that the democratic forces would be as successful in barring Rankin from Bilbo's seat. The mantle of Congressional immunity which the Rankin committee enjoys permits it to be completely irresponsible in the things it says and does. The Civil Rights Congress, with no such immunity or taxpayers' money, is prepared to substantiate its charges through every step of the campaign."

"We have faith in the common sense of justice and the understanding of the American people. The Un-American Activities Committee has none. That is why the committee has moved heaven and earth to bar liberal radio commentators from the air, to purge Hollywood so that the movies will picture life in the Rankin way, to bar minority political opinion."

"The threat to America which the Rankin committee presents is the threat of thought control in all channels of expression."

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American Labor party, of New Orleans, La., and Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Among supporters of the organization are: Representative Vito Marcantonio, Democrat, of New York; Representative Adam C. Powell, Jr., Democrat, of New York, as one of the sponsors of the Congress. The Civil Rights Congress was organized April 27 and 28, 1946, in Detroit by a merger of the International Labor Defense and the National Federation of Constitutional Liberties.

OTHERS LISTED

Also listed as a sponsor was Miss Foreman, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The others were Senator Glen H. Taylor, Democrat, of Idaho; former Representative Hugh Delacy of Washington, Democrat; Representative Vito Marcantonio, Democrat, of New York; Representative Adam C. Powell, Jr., Democrat, of New York, as one of the sponsors of the Congress. The Civil Rights Congress was organized April 27 and 28, 1946, in Detroit by a merger of the International Labor Defense and the National Federation of Constitutional Liberties.

ization with their communist affiliations the committee listed:

"Thelma Dale, member initiating committee of Civil Rights Congress; member, New York State Committee of the Communist Party." *Wed. 9-3-47*

"Langston Hughes, sponsor-member Communist Party."

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FAITH IN PEOPLE
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"The threat to America which the Rankin committee presents is the threat of thought control in all channels of expression."

Describing the committee as the "Republican-dominated un-American Committee," Dr. Foreman said at Highlands, North Carolina, last Saturday that "Every organization striving to protect civil rights is doing a patriotic job for all of us, adding: *Wed. 9-3-47*

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CLEMENT'S DENIAL

Dr. Clement, reached in New York, said that "in the first place I've never been a Communist or a fellow traveler," adding:

"I suppose I am identified with a number of organizations in which some Communist or fellow-travelers might possibly hold membership, but they are organizations which are trying to do things which I think ought to be done in

democratic country. "I'm pretty sure a close investigation will show that there are saints and sinners in any large group. I think it absurd to label any man a Communist or fellow-traveler simply because he belongs to a group in which there are Communist or fellow-travelers."

Mr. Rowan did not recall the organization or ever having authorized the use of his name as a sponsor.

THE HORIZON

By P. L. PRATTIS

THE un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives has put the finger on the National Civil Rights Congress. And in so doing, it has also put the finger on a number of prominent American Negro leaders. They are being

put in the role of being either Communist sympathizers or suckers. This writer doesn't think they are either.

I was present at the birth of the Civil Rights Congress in Detroit in the spring of 1946. Prior to the call for a national conference on civil

rights two sets of phenomena had been occurring simultaneously. One was the widespread abuse of the civil rights of the Negro subsequent to the end of the war, particularly the shocking treatment of Negro veterans.

The other was the flushing up of various organizations with alleged Communist ties by the Rankin Committee. These organizations were being required to fetch up their membership lists and to show from whence their financial support came. The leaders of two organizations refused to do so. One of these was the National League for Constitutional Liberties. The other was the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee League, or something of the sort. The first was led by George Marshall, the second by a Dr. Barsky — a very smart egg.

IT IS MY recollection that both of these men were held in contempt of the Congressional Committee because of their refusal to produce the membership and financial records of their organizations.

It was while they were facing these contempt charges that the call for a national civil rights conference was issued. The Com-

munists and alleged Communists behind the call kept their hands and their names well covered. The call was based on the existing, widespread abuse of civil rights, not on the contempt charges that had been leveled against two Communist sympathizers to say the least.

Almost any Negro living outside New York (where you have, perhaps, the best chance to keep up with the clandestine machinations of the Communists) would have gone for that civil rights lure. There was no question about the violation of civil rights and the necessity for some kind of strong action. It was because of that and not because they were suckers that some Negroes lent their names to the call.

Leaders of various organizations and of labor unions from some twenty-three States, including the Southern States, attended that conference. There was almost as large a contingent from the American Federation of Labor as from the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

IT WAS ONLY after one reached Detroit that he was enabled to sense what was going on. The white girls who seemed to have charge of the literature, of registration, of room assignments and all the burdensome responsibilities of conferences were the first dead give-away. The next was the artificial leadership role played by George Marshall.

It was apparent from the first luncheon meeting that although he did not say much and did not say that well, he was the power behind the high chair. Of course, Dr. Barsky was there, too, and said his piece much better than George.

During the two-day session, many Negroes who were no more Communist than Monsignor Sheen took the stand to declaim against the violation of civil rights. One of these was Earl B. Dickerson, the Chicago lawyer. Another was Jeannetta Welch Brown. Magistrate Joseph Rainey of Philadelphia also had his say.

At the final session, the true

purpose of the conference was disclosed. The delegates ate up a planned suggestion that a National Civil Rights Congress (to be representative of all the organizations with delegates present) be created. And then something very revealing happened. George Marshall arose on the platform to announce that the National League for Constitutional Liberties would be glad to merge with the new Congress. Not only to merge, but to give up its identity and its office space on Forty-second Street in New York. This was greeted as a demonstration of the pulling power of the new organization. More than \$3,000 was pledged as a war fund.

FEW PERSONS present at the time realized that Marshall and Barsky were consummating swift disguises for the probable future bewilderment of another un-American Affairs Committee. It was a slick trick, too slick for almost anybody except a New Yorker, a Trotskyite or a Socialist to have detected at that time. The civil rights issue then would have made a sucker of almost anybody else. Even Tom Clark got hot on that one although he did not attend the Detroit conference.

The lesson learned at Detroit, of course, is that while the Communist issue is what it is in this country, it is wise to be careful of the kind of company you keep in public movements. It is all right for you to be a Communist, if you want to, or a Communist sympathizer (although perhaps unwise), but you should know what you are doing and, more important, if you associate with the Commies or fellow travelers, you should know how to play inside baseball.

Three-Day Confab To Attack Bias

CHICAGO—A three-day national conference on civil rights, to be held at Hull House here, starting Nov. 21, was announced this week by the Civil Rights Congress.

The conference call indicates that the problems of lynching and racial discrimination and of the national "witch-hunt" now raging, will be highlighted for special attention by the delegates.

Leading a list of almost 300 sponsors are Charles H. Houston, Washington attorney; Robert Morris Lovett, former Governor of the Virgin Islands; Dean Brailsford R. Brazeal, Morehouse College, and Bishops J. A. Gregg and R. R. Wright Jr.

CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS ASKED OF TRUMAN

New York Times
Chicago Resolution Urges He Call on Congress to Carry Out Committee's Ideas

New York Times
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, Nov. 22—A resolution was prepared today at the meeting here of the Civil Rights Congress, urging President Truman to include in his State of the Union message to Congress when it reconvenes in regular session January a request for legislation to implement the recent report of the Civil Rights Committee, entitled "To Secure These Rights."

The resolution, which will be submitted to a plenary session of the Congress tomorrow, closing day of the meeting, was decided on at one of two panel meetings into which the 250 delegates divided this afternoon, that devoted to minority and labor's rights.

This panel heard from persons from various places in the country reports of increasing violations of civil rights against racial, religious, nationality and political minority groups. The panel recommended that state and local Civil Rights Congress units, in cooperation with civic leaders, work also to implement the civil rights report of the President's committee, through legislation and organization of masses of people.

The panel also is to present a resolution tomorrow to create a permanent national committee to work for carrying out the proposals of the President's civil rights committee.

The other panel, on thought control, heard from Samuel Neuberger, a New York lawyer, a report on the status of cases of contempt before the House Un-American Activities Committee. Arthur Stein of Detroit, secretary-treasurer of the United Public Workers, CIO, reporting on the effect of the President's executive order on loyalty among members of the union, declared that the order was driving the best men and women out of the government service.

Joseph Cadden, executive secretary of the congress, which has headquarters in New York, advocated that a million signatures be obtained for a petition in support of H. R. 46, a bill introduced by Representative Adolph Sabath, Democrat, of Illinois, to abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee. The congress has been working for 500,000 signatures.

Many Unaware of Civil Rights

20 States Outlaw
Bias, CIO Finds

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Race discrimination and segregation are practiced in many places because of ignorance of the average citizen or his negligence in taking advantage of civil rights law, the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, reported recently.

The 20 States listed as having anti-discriminatory statutes are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington and Wisconsin.

Prohibit Beds in Restaurants

The CIO research department found that 18 of these 20 States prohibit race discrimination in restaurants, most of them prohibit in public conveyances over half of them include theatres and barber shops, seven of them prohibit discriminatory advertising.

Most of the statutes include a comprehensive prohibition, making the statute applicable to all other places of public accommodation or amusement, the pamphlet said and penalties for violation of these statutes range from fines of \$10 to \$1000 or jail sentences of from 30 days to one year, or both, according to the statement.

Civil Rights

Abuse Rapped

By President

Truman Message To 80th Congress Hits Political Barriers

In his message to the 80th Congress on the State of the Union on Monday, President Truman dwelt briefly on the abuse of civil rights. The President referred to the recently created Committee on Civil Rights and declared:

"We have recently witnessed in this country numerous attacks upon the constitutional rights of individual citizens as a result of racial and religious bigotry. Substantial segments of our people have been prevented from exercising fully their right to participate in the election of public officials, both locally and nationally. Freedom to engage in lawful calling has been denied."

He stated further, "I am not convinced that present legislation reached the limit of Federal power to protect the civil rights of its citizens."

He then informed the Congress of his creation by executive order of the President's Committee on Civil Rights—"to study and report on the whole problem of Federally secured civil rights with a view to making recommendations to the Congress."

The President failed to mention the FEPC issue or the Anti-Poll Tax fight.

Edward Prichard Offered Civil Liberties Post

WASHINGTON—Edward F. Prichard Jr., 32-year-old Kentucky lawyer and one of the administration's top wartime "brain-trusters," has been offered the post of assistant attorney general in charge of enforcing civil liberties, it was announced here this weekend.

The job is being created in accordance with the recommendation of President Truman's special committee on civil rights. A full-fledged Civil Liberties division is being set up in the Justice Department and Prichard would have charge of it.

Before the job was offered Prichard it had been tendered to and turned down by Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr.

Justice Department Convicts 27 Rights' Violators In 20 Yrs.

Sat. 10-11-47
By VENICE SPRAGGS

WASHINGTON — The Department of Justice's record of convictions in cases involving the denial of civil rights augurs little for the possible conviction of four Georgia prison guards indicted last week by a Federal grand jury for killing eight Negro convicts and wounding two others last July 11. During the last 20 years, there have been only 27 convictions in civil rights cases drawing penalties aggregating a meager 30 years, 2 months, despite the fact that the majority of the cases have involved killings.

Significantly, of the 27 convictions, 25 have been obtained in the last five years, with 14, or more than 50 per cent of the entire total chalked up to the administration of Atty. Gen. Tom Clark.

FBI Blames Courts

Justice Department officials claim that weakness of existing civil right statutes has been the basic handicap in getting a larger number of convictions. However, J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, laid the blame squarely on the shoulders of the courts and juries which he charges do not have the "courageous attitude" necessary to perform their duties and functions free from prevailing community prejudices.

Federal grand jury indictment of the four guards came after a

Georgia Superior Court grand jury had already written off the fiendish crime as justifiable. Indicted were Warden H. G. Worthy along with Guards Guy McNab, Remer Bazemore, H. L. Holmes and W. C. Lawler. They are charged with "wantonly, unnecessarily and without just cause" firing on the 10 convicts "for the purpose of imposing illegal, summary punishment." The shooting took place at the Glynn County prison camp near Brunswick, which has since been ordered closed.

The guards will be tried under Section 52 of the United States Code which carries a maximum penalty of \$1000 fine, a year in jail or both. The right of the Federal Government to intervene in the case was established by the Supreme Court more than two years ago in the Screws Case which came to the high tribunal through an appeal from a lower court decision in the State of Georgia.

Approves U. S. Intervention

Screws, like the four prison guards, was accused of beating to death a young Negro arrested on an alleged trumped-up charge of stealing. He was convicted of the crime by the Georgia court, and appealed the decision.

Although the Supreme Court sustained the ruling of the lower court, and established the right of the Federal Government to step in when a law enforcement officer acting as an agent of the

State deprives an individual of his constitutionally granted right "to be secure in their prison while in the custody of the state, and to be immune from illegal attack at the hands of officers and employees of the state." The decision specified that "wilful" intent of the officer to deny these rights must be proved.

The case of the four guards, therefore, will not only depend on the "courageous" attitude of the courts and juries, but on the ability of the prosecution to show "wilful" intent, a condition which veteran legal authorities assert is virtually impossible.

The President's Committee on Civil Rights, which has just completed its report soon to be released, will recommend that a statute to supplement Section 52 be enacted specifically directed against police brutality and related crimes. The proposed new supplementary statute would correct weaknesses in the Screws decision.

Moreover, the President's Committee will recommend stiffer penalties be imposed under Section 52 raising the maximum penalty to \$5000, a prison term of 10 years, or both, the same as is now imposed under Section 51 of Title 18, the other of the two existing civil rights statutes.

This hike in penalty under Section 52 was recommended by G. Man Hoover when he appeared before the committee last spring.

Elsewhere, the National Association for the Advancement of

Colored People has offered Attorney General Clark full cooperation in the action brought against the guards.

In expressing appreciation to the Department of Justice for securing indictments against the four, Thurgood Marshall, NAACP chief counsel wrote that the NAACP had made every effort to secure affirmative action from the Georgia authorities, but that it had become apparent that the only possible avenue of redress was through the Federal Government.

Civil Rights Section Being Strengthened

Clark Says He
Feels Deeply His
Obligation

BOSTON.—(NNPA)—Humiliated at the presentation of a statement of grievances by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to the United Nations Division on Human Rights, Attorney General Tom C. Clark last Monday told the National Association of Attorneys General here that he is enlarging and strengthening the Civil Rights Section of the Justice Department.

The protection of the citizen in his rights of citizenship is a field of law enforcement in which the obligation of the federal government is more clearly defined than in others, Mr. Clark said in his address, adding:

"Civil rights is such a field. These are clearly and unambiguously set out in the Constitution. 'Now, we have in America, and due to the ideals to which we persistently cling, some problems in the field of civil rights which most other countries do not have. We think it is right, in our country, that no man should be the victim of discrimination because of his color, his race, or his religion.'

PRINCIPLE EMBEDDED

"We have not only stated that sentiment many times, in high places and on great occasions, but we have embedded the great principle of equality under the law in our most venerated and sacred documents. And we have gone to war to defend this humanitarian heritage of freedom. No one can doubt that we mean it. None of us would have it otherwise.

"And is it not the sacred duty of law-enforcement officers to see that it is not, in fact, otherwise? Everything which is possible to our cure to every citizen the rights of citizenship which are unquestioned in the battle between freedom and tyranny which occupies the world today. That alone should determine us that the guarantees of the Constitution shall be made effective where they are not. 'I feel very deeply the obligation to protect

of the individual liberties of the citizen, we shall move with great vigor and force as is permitted us under the law."

PETITION FOR REDRESS

"Lately there has been presentation to the United Nations organization by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People a petition for the redress of grievances. I was humiliated, as I know you must have been, to realize that in our America there could be the slightest foundation for such a petition. And that the association could conclude that among all of our honorable institutions there was no tribunal to which such a petition could be presented with hope of redress. 'Time will not stand still for us, gentlemen. Time and the world will not leave us alone, as once they might. Indeed, we Americans live now under the critical scrutiny of the world as lives no other.

nation, no other free association of free people. No act of accidental injustice, let alone those of calculation, will go unobserved by our enemies. *Atlanta, Ga.*

"Lip-service to our ideals will be seen for the mockery that it is. It behooves every American, and especially those of us charged with the enforcement of the law, on which rests our freedom, to live honestly up to our ideals and principles. There is a great battle joined in the world between freedom and tyranny. Let us all be very careful that through prejudice or for any other reason we do not help the hand of tyranny."

THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF NEGROES

Zion
From the record of efforts to convict and punish white people who violate the civil rights of Negroes in the South thus far it would appear to be a waste of time, money and to be almost wholly futile. For it is apparent that white juries will not convict, however strong the evidence may be. In numerous instances of such attempts to bring offenders to justice there has been a complete breakdown of law and order, and at the moment there appears nothing can be done about it. Negro citizens may be brutally beaten, maimed and killed, deprived of life and property and the perpetrators of the crimes if they are white may safely presume they will not be punished. Such a state of affairs, is indeed, a sad commentary on the boasted democracy of the state and the nation. *Charlotte, N.C.*

Such utter disregard for the rights of Negroes often renders them helpless and defenseless and at the complete mercy of those who would abuse them. We abhor and are utterly horrified by the crimes which Negroes all too frequently commit; not that they are worse or more frequent than those committed by whites. They are not. But it seems inconceivable that Negroes would hazard a brush with the law, knowing how certainly he will be punished. On the other hand, when Negroes are faced with altercations with white people, knowing that he

will inevitably come out second best, they frequently follow the example of the white people by taking the law in their own hands. Indeed, it is surprising that so few offensives are committed by Negroes, when it is known how often they are imposed upon without cause and often without recourse to the law. *11-6-47*

The only explanation is that Negroes, for the most part are peaceable, patient, forbearing, forgiving and law-abiding. Often enough Negroes in some sections of the country are arrested, convicted and given severe penalties while many whites who commit similar crimes are not even arrested. This is a most aggravating form of discrimination and injustice.

In the face of recent court decisions revealing this reprehensible state of affairs, we are made to wonder what can be done to remove this terrible blot upon the American nation.

By Albert Deutsch Tom Jefferson and Parnell Thomas Clash at Independence Square

MON.
The incident in Philadelphia's Independence Square Saturday should sober up those liberals who are prematurely celebrating the adjournment of the hit-and-run Un-American Activities Committee as a big victory for democratic rights. It followed as night the day that the political hoodlumism of the Thomas crew in Congress would bring about the real brass-knuckle and stink-bomb assault on liberty that shamed the City of Brotherly Love. That it happened—of all places—in Independence Square, in the shadow of the sacred Cradle of Liberty, is a symbol that no democrat can ignore. *11-3-47*

It would be impossible to overestimate the present threat to human liberties implicit in the continued activity of the Thomas hit-and-run committee, headed by a political bigot. That evil committee is tearing to shreds the very fabric of democratic decency. It is spreading confusion and panic among conservatives and liberals alike. American liberty cannot long survive the kind of poisonous miasma rising over the land from the legislative smog-pots. The desecration of our democratic shrine is a revealing symptom.

At this time of crisis, it is well to recall the wise counsel of the man who, in a Philadelphia House 171 years ago, drafted the Declaration of Independence not far from the spot where it was trampled in the dust Saturday. Many inspiring statements of the Drafter can be found in a little Pelican Book edited by Saul K. Padover, entitled *Thomas Jefferson On Democracy*.

Contribution May Be Violated, But It Awakens Vigilance

"It is certain, Jefferson wrote with reference to the Bill of Rights, 'that written constitutions may be violated in moments of passion or delusion, but they furnish a text to which those who are watchful may again rally and recall the people; they fix too for the people the principles of their political creed.'"

Urging the inclusion of a Bill of Rights in the proposed Constitution, Jefferson wrote James Madison in 1787:

"I have a right to nothing which another has a right to take away . . . Let me add that a Bill of Rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular; and what no just government should refuse, or rest on inference."

In his inaugural address as President of the U. S. A. in 1801, Jefferson laid down the essential principles of American democracy, which included "equal and exact justice to all men of whatever faith or persuasion, religious or political."



Deutsch

Majority Prevails, But Minority Has Rights, Too

In that same inaugural address, which was a flaming affirmation of the democratic credo, Jefferson said:

11-3-47
"All, too, will bear in mind the sacred principle that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will, to be rightful, must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal laws must protect, and to violate which would be oppression. . . ."

"And let us reflect that having banished from our land that religious intolerance under which mankind so long bled and suffered, we have yet gained little if we countenance a political intolerance as despotic, as wicked, and capable of as bitter and bloody persecutions."

Toward the end of his long life, the Great Founder wrote, prophetically:

"Our legislators are not sufficiently apprised of the rightful limits of their power; that their true office is to declare and enforce only our natural rights and duties, and to take none of them from us. No man has a natural right to commit aggression on the equal rights of another."

Yes, my fellow citizens, this is the time to "rally and recall." A nation that tolerates indefinitely the legislative hooliganism that reaches out into the streets and public forums is not worthy of the precious heritage of freedom, and will not long possess it.

Lawyers, NAACP Probe Inadequacy Of Statutes

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
Wed. 1-29-47

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Amendment of existing federal civil rights statutes so as to broaden their application and increase the penalties were proposed at the conference on the power of the Federal Government to protect civil rights, held at Howard University last Saturday.

The conference, sponsored by the National Lawyers Guild in cooperation with the National Bar Association and the National Legal Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, dealt with the inadequacy of existing legislation for protecting civil rights, the history of civil rights legislation after the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, Supreme Court decisions affecting civil rights, the administration of existing laws, and proposals for new legislation.

Wide Application

Under a joint proposal of the sponsoring organizations, the section of the federal criminal statute making it an offense to conspire to injure persons in the exercise of civil rights would be broadened by making its provisions applicable to any person who injures, oppresses, threatens or intimidates any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of federally-secured rights.

Another joint proposal would amend the section of the United States criminal code dealing with the deprivation of civil rights under color of state laws would increase the penalty for violations from a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year to a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for not more than ten years. The penalty also would bar any person convicted from thereafter holding any office, or place of honor, profit or trust created by the Constitution or laws of the United States. 1-29-47

A SOUTHERNER ON SEGREGATION

The Times New York, N.Y.
Sat. 1-25-47
A Southerner born and bred, Thomas Sancton, leads off the Survey Graphic's current symposium on racial segregation. Mr. Sancton's home, like Senator-elect Bilbo's, is in Mississippi. From this vantage point he goes a little further than do many Northern friends of the Negro in advocating federal legislation as a means of forcing a democratic conception of civil rights upon the South. The history of the so-called "force bills" is not encouraging. What federal action manifestly can do is to require fair employment practices on all jobs paid for by federal funds, to see to it that if there is

segregation in interstate travel the facilities provided for the Negro shall be as good as those provided for whites, and to keep open the doors of the federal courts to all who have been deprived of their basic constitutional rights. *The Times New York, N.Y.*

More hope lies in education and in improved economic conditions than in new laws. Mr. Sancton believes that "in the field of race relations positive elements in our history have been gaining ascendancy in the past two decades." He thinks "the old American bent for freedom and human worth" is reasserting itself. Certainly that feeling is old—we find it in extracts from George W. Cable's "The Silent South," reprinted after sixty-two years. In spite of old and new abuses, North as well as South, in New York City as well as in Birmingham and Memphis, it grows in strength. The old injustice brings votes to men like Bilbo and the late Eugene Talmadge, but the ancient striving for democracy causes revolts against the things both men stand for, produces outstanding liberals like former Governor Arnall, makes New Yorkers sensitive to the congestion in Harlem, gives Negroes better opportunities in the armed services, compels organizations like the Ku Klux Klan to hide their faces. The Negro is understandingly impatient when he is still denied his full rights as a citizen. But there is progress. Sat. 1-25-47

Civil Rights Laws In Twenty States Of Union

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
Surv. 3-16-47

Ignorance Of Provisions Said Hindering Exercise

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)

—Race discrimination and segregation are practiced in many places because of ignorance of the average citizen or his negligence in taking advantage of civil rights law, the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, reported last Tuesday.

In a handbook outlining civil rights laws in twenty states, the committee, of which George L. P. Weaver is the director, urged all citizens to take full advantage of those laws. *Surv. 3-16-47*

The twenty states listed as having anti-discriminatory statutes are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington and Wisconsin.

Prohibitions

The CIO research department found that eighteen of these twenty states prohibit race discriminations in restaurant and other eating places, most of them prohibit it in public conveyances, over half of them include theatres and barber shops, seven of them prohibit discriminatory advertising, and others provide for equal rights in places ranging from hotels to canteens and including hospitals, rest rooms, stores, elevators, poolrooms, race tracks and saloons.

Most of the statutes include a comprehensive prohibition, making the statute applicable to "all other places of public accommodation or amusement," the pamphlet said.

Penalties for violation of these statutes range from fines of \$10 to \$1,000 or jail sentences of from 30 days to one year, or both, and in some states suits for civil damages are authorized.

License Suspensions

In addition to these penalties, some states provide for suspension or revocation of the license of places which practice discrimination. *Atlanta, Ga.*

The pamphlet points out that there are five states which have laws against discrimination in private employment. These states are Indiana and Wisconsin—which have laws containing no penalties and providing only for investigation and study and Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey which penalize violators. *Surv.*

In Indiana and Wisconsin, the committee said, victims of discrimination should make whatever use they can of the legal machinery set up. It advises the filing of complaints with appropriate state agencies and exposure of the case to the public. *3-16-47*

Complaints

Any victim of race or religious discrimination in employment in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey can file a complaint with the state agency by filling in a standard form provided for that purpose, the pamphlet points out. The pamphlet also points out that the courts and other agencies have made rulings on racial or religious discrimination in employment. These rulings include a decision by the United States Supreme Court that a labor union as the exclusive bargaining agent charged with responsibility, since all members of the class or craft must represent without discrimination. It also points out that the California Supreme Court has decided that a labor union which bars colored workers from membership cannot enforce a closed shop agreement against a colored worker who refuses to accept membership in an auxiliary. *Daily World*

GOP Plans Stronger Federal Protection for Civil Rights

EDITORIAL RESEARCH REPORT

WASHINGTON. — A general strengthening of the power and authority of the Federal Government to cope with violations of the civil rights of citizens shortly will be asked of Congress by President Truman. At the same time Republican leaders in the House and Senate will press for passage of independent measures to prohibit certain specific abuses covered by the broad term "civil liberties." Republican-sponsored bills in this category will include anti-poll tax, anti-lynch, and fair employment practice legislation. *Surv. 1-18-47*

Since the close of World War II, there has been an increase in the number of Klan-like "hate" groups and a rising tide of incidents involving mob violence and police brutality. Yet State-local law enforcement agencies in some areas have shown an inability or unwillingness to safeguard civil rights and only meager authority in this field is now available to the Government at Washington. Attorney General Clark said recently that there "is no field of law in which the Federal Government is expected to do so much with so little."

An expansion of Federal power to deal with civil rights violations has been advocated by Administration spokesmen for many months. The proposal received the approval of President Truman last December when he appointed a 15-member Committee on Civil Rights to frame recommendations for Congress. The President said the Federal Government was "hampered by inadequate civil rights statutes" in discharging

12 California Families Win Civil Rights Case

Daily World
Baltimore, Md.

VALLEJO, Calif. — The civil rights violations case, filed a year ago by 12 families against Solano County deputy sheriffs, who illegally entered an searched nearly 100 homes in the Chabot Terrace Housing Project in a hunt for a murder suspect, was settled victoriously on May 14.

The Vallejo Housing Authority, the Vallejo court, agreed to pay each claimant \$25, and two families, some of whose property was damaged, extra compensation. *Surv. 4-17*

the obligations "placed on it by the Constitution." The protection of Democratic institutions and enjoyment by citizens of their constitutional rights required that "these weak and inadequate statutes should be expanded and improved."

James Freeman
For the greater number of years since establishment of the Federal Union, State and local governments have been the primary protective agencies of most of the individual's civil rights—even those supposedly guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The Federal Bill of Rights was designed to limit the action of the central government only; the prohibitions of the Fourteenth Amendment were directed solely against the actions of State Governments and their officials. Citizens who are deprived of their civil rights by other private individuals cannot look to the Federal Government for redress, except in a small class of cases.

True, during the Reconstruction period following the Civil War, Congress enacted a series of measures which widely extended the authority and enforcement power of the Washington Government. But Supreme Court decisions declared unconstitutional much of the civil rights legislation of that period, and subsequent Congresses repealed most of what remained.

In recent years, the fundamental freedoms of speech, press, and assembly (already safeguarded against infringement by the Federal Government under the Bill of Rights) have been placed under constitutional protection against State action as well. In a series of notable decisions handed down in the last 20 years, the Supreme Court

Congress fails to enact new legislation at its present session, the list of "fundamental" liberties which the Federal Government may protect against invasion by the States will be further elaborated by future decisions of the United States Supreme Court.

Wed. 6-15-47

In its report the committee said it has endeavored to comply with its instructions to furnish a medium through which the association may be advised and take appropriate action.

ASKING FUNDS FOR APPEAL IN COPPOCK CASE

Des Moines, Iowa

Civil Liberties Union

Launches Drive.

10-30-47

A drive was begun Wednesday for funds to appeal the conviction of Russell Coppock, found guilty of unlawful assembly in connection with an attempt to defend a Negro ordered to leave Pacific Junction.

Coppock is Pacific Junction basketball coach.

The drive was launched by the Iowa Civil Liberties union, an organization whose help Coppock has accepted.

The Civil Liberties union is an organization which defends individuals when it believes their constitutional rights have been infringed upon.

100 Iowa Members.

There are about 100 Iowa members, most of whom are teachers, lawyers, college professors, social workers or persons in other professional fields.

Coppock and five other Pacific Junction men were found guilty last week by a justice of the peace court jury at Glenwood on charges of "violent and tumultuous assembly obstructing the administration of justice."

Mayor's Charges.

The case was based on charges filed by Mayor John Lutter of Pacific Junction, who said the group had interfered when he attempted to order from town a Negro he believed to be a vagrant. The six young men said they believed the mayor violated the Negro's constitutional rights.

The six were assessed \$25 suspended fines. Asserting they did not have the time to spare from

their work to push the case further, the other five defendants paid \$5.20 costs each and dropped the case.

Appealing Case.

Coppock, however, said he is appealing the case because of the principle involved and because of the difficulty he may have in obtaining a teaching job.

He said the Pacific Junction school board already is looking for a replacement to take his job. The father of four small boys, he teaches government at the high school.

"Widespread Interest."

In announcing the drive for funds, the Rev. Grant Butler, Des Moines Unitarian minister and chairman of the Iowa Civil Liberties union, said the case has attracted widespread interest in professional circles.

Miss Katherine Lucchini, director of the Des Moines Y.W.C.A. and secretary-treasurer of the Iowa Civil Liberties union, said contributions to help finance the appeal may be sent to the Iowa Civil Liberties union office, at the Y.W.C.A., Des Moines.

To Confer Today.

Butler said he will confer with Coppock at Pacific Junction today on the appeal procedure.

An Omaha group which sponsored a talk by Coppock there Tuesday night has donated \$50 to assist in defense costs. Coppock will speak again at Omaha Friday night, at a meeting of the Omaha Committee on Inter-racial Understanding.

6 SEEK RIGHTS FOR A NEGRO, ARE ARRESTED

Des Moines Register

Mayor and Teacher
in 'Vagrancy' Row.

By Staff Writer.

PACIFIC JUNCTION, IA.

Six local men, including the high school basketball

coach, have been charged with a breach of peace as the result of their protest over the arrest of a Negro.

The six contended that racial prejudice was involved when the mayor here, John Lutter, arrested a young, neat appearing Negro last Monday on a charge of vagrancy.

The group of six had denied the mayor's claim that the Negro was begging on the streets.

Negro Released.

Arrested on Pacific Junction's main street, the Negro was taken to a justice of the peace court by Mayor Lutter. The six men followed and continued their protest.

After an argument on racial discrimination, the Negro was released and 24 hours later charges of "violently and tumultuously assembling" were filed against the six men.

The men are at liberty under \$100 bond.

War Veterans.

The basketball coach, who teaches government in the high school, is Russell Coppock. The others are Lawrence D. Turner and Richard E. Stoney, World War II veterans; V. O. Hopkinson, a mill worker; Otis Turner, and Abe Fisher, Jr.

After the charges were filed, the men's attorney, L. T. Genung of Glenwood, asked a change of venue from the justice court of Alfred Green of Pacific Junction to a justice court at Glenwood. A hearing is set for 10 a. m. Saturday in Justice Green's court.

Denies Prejudice.

Mayor Lutter denied that racial prejudice had entered into the arrest. He said itinerant white men have been arrested in recent weeks at Pacific Junction on the same charge and, like the Negro, were given a choice of leaving town or facing a vagrancy charge.

Four of the men arrested signed a statement presenting their version of the incident. They were Coppock, Stoney, Hopkinson and Lawrence Turner.

Asked Drink of Water.

In their statement, the men contend the Negro simply had asked for a drink of water at a residence. Coppock also said the Negro had worked for his breakfast that morning at a cafe.

When ordered to leave town,

the Negro protested, asserting that he wished to stay until the following day so that he could complete a car washing job.

The mayor ordered the Negro to cancel the car washing job, asserting that if "you loiter on the street that makes you a vagrant," the men said in their statement.

Given Hour to Leave.

Mayor Lutter then gave the Negro one hour to leave, the men asserted.

"Some of us less versed in the law regarding vagrancy but much better versed in the rights of an American citizen were irritated at this high-handed dealing out of 'justice,'" the statement said.

Refused Place to Sleep.

In their statement the men said it was agreed at the court that the Negro could stay in town "if he could find a place to stay." One of the six offered to share his bed with the Negro, but his landlady refused, he said. Another offered to let the man sleep in his cob shed, but Mayor Lutter said "this would still be vagrancy," according to the men's statement.

Finally the Negro was given permission to sleep in a depot, but the men said in their statement they did not know whether he stayed.

[The Negro, whose name was not learned during all the discussion, since has left town.]

"Here we have society compelling a citizen to be a vagrant by refusing to sell him use of public eating and sleeping places, open to all of us—except!—then arresting him for being a vagrant," the statement said.

"Who of us, if subjected to the same treatment, might not question the sincerity of democracy as administered by some . . ."

We shall not comment on the charge of "violently and tumultuously assembling" filed against the six Pacific Junction men who stood up for a stranger's rights the other day. The courts will take care of that.

But we do wish to comment on the extraordinary fact that six men in a small town—a high school teacher and basketball coach, some war veterans, a mill worker, and others—should make such an effort on behalf of a stranger, subsisting on odd jobs, a man of another color

of skin.

There's nothing new, in towns large or small, in the authorities running vagrants out of town—though Christian charity, neighborly feelings, and the Constitution of the United States are against it. There's nothing new in authorities taking a rather elastic definition of "vagrant," especially if there are skin or nationality differences mixed up in a case. There's nothing new in Negroes being denied their plain legal rights in Iowa to public accommodations for food and shelter. There's nothing new in law-enforcement officials cracking down hard on anyone who "talks back."

What is new and glorious about the Pacific Junction incident is that here are six men who risked the anger of the authorities and protested against these customary injustices in behalf of a mere passerby. Two of them offered to provide him a place to sleep.

They were white men, residents, secure. He was a Negro, a stranger, with no place to lay his head.

Here is the way the incident began, according to a statement signed by four of the men afterwards arrested and charged with "violently and tumultuously assembling":

The night of Oct. 13 a Negro stands on the street in front of the restaurant quietly visiting with a few residents. The officer comes up to him, accuses him of "mooching," and orders him out of town on charges of vagrancy. "Who had complained?" someone asked the officer.

He had asked for a drink of water from a resident. He had asked for some food from another, secured it, and worked to pay for it.

Where was he going to spend the night, the officer asks. The Negro stammers a bit, obviously afraid; afraid to say no one would sell him the use of a bed for the night.

If you loiter in the streets that makes you a vagrant. Leave town tonight. That's the officer talking.

The Negro explains he has

to people of your own country, perhaps to people of your own town, to people of your own skin color and social standing, your own church, your own lodge, your own politics.

But here, in one Iowa small town, a whole group of bystanders made active efforts on behalf of what appeared to them the elementary human rights of an American.

Elsewhere it is written: "And behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and . . . willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor?"

The wonderful parable of the Good Samaritan was the answer. In much of the world, 2,000 years later, "neighbor" is still restricted

to people of your own country, perhaps to people of your own town, to people of your own skin color and social standing, your own church, your own lodge, your own politics.

But here, in one Iowa small town, a whole group of bystanders made active efforts on behalf of what appeared to them the elementary human rights of an American.

Thinking back on the incident, the four in their statement said "This man (the Negro), by keeping protests of the bystanders, who followed him to justice court, and his respect for America, is a much better American than . . . people of the men were arrested."

work tomorrow washing and polishing a car. Tell the fellow you won't do it. I'll be back in an hour and if you're here you're going to jail. The officer drove off . . . That was the beginning. Later came arrest of the Negro over the protests of the bystanders, who followed him to justice court, and later tried to find him a bed. The next day six of the men were arrested."

citizen of another race, a wayfarer whom he considered a vagrant.
ing stranger who fell among officers of the law.

The world at last is moving toward a broader concept of neighborliness when this can happen. We are proud of Pacific Junction, and proud, once more, of the human race.

6 WHO SOUGHT TO AID NEGRO REGISTER FOUND GUILTY

Miss Morris Loun

Pacific Junction Men

'Broke Peace.'

10-24-47

By George Shane.

(Register Staff Writer.)

GLENWOOD, IA.—Six Pacific Junction men, including the high school basketball coach, Thursday afternoon were found guilty on breach of peace charges resulting from their protest over a Negro's arrest.

However, the justice of the peace court jury recommended any fine or sentence be suspended. Sentence will be passed at 1 p. m. Saturday.

Claim Prejudice.

The six had contended that racial prejudice was involved when the Pacific Junction mayor, John Lutter, arrested a young Negro Oct. 13 on a charge of vagrancy. They denied the mayor's claim that the Negro was begging on the street.

After a day of testimony by both defense and prosecution witnesses, in the court of Justice of the Peace William P. Allbee at the courthouse, a six-man jury returned its verdict following 30 minutes of deliberation.

Charges, which had been filed by Mayor Lutter, a retired navy chief warrant officer, stated that the men had interfered with him as he had attempted to arrest and question the Negro, a transient

A discussion over whether racial prejudice was involved, violating the Negro's civil rights, had begun on Pacific Junction's main street and was continued at the home of Justice of the Peace Lola Boquette of Pacific Junction.

Misdemeanor.

Mayor Lutter testified that he had feared the six men because of their action and words and for this reason did not press the charge against the Negro.

The charge against the six men was "violent and tumultuous assembly," a simple misdemeanor, which called for a maximum fine of \$100 or a sentence of 30 days in jail. 10-24-47

Defendants in the case testified they were interested in seeing the Negro get fair treatment.

The basketball coach, who teaches government in high school, is Russell Coppock. The others are Lawrence D. Turner, Richard E. Stoney, Otis Turner and Abe Fisher, jr., World War II veterans, and V. O. Hopkinson, a mill worker.

Defendants denied that there had been any violence or tumultuous assembly and said their worst offense had been that two or three of those protesting had tried to talk at once.

Raised Voices.

Prosecution witnesses testified that Lawrence Turner who, with Coppock, acted as the group's spokesmen, had protested to the mayor that "you can't do that" when he took the Negro before Mrs. Boquette.

Prosecution witnesses said that the protesting group raised its voices and that Lawrence Turner raised his hand and shook his finger at Mayor Lutter.

The Negro, identified as Alfred Twitty of Washington, D. C., left Pacific Junction the following morning after completing a car-washing job.

The defendants also said they had protested because the mayor had ordered the Negro to cancel the car-washing job and leave town that night.

"The defendants," charged County Attorney William B. Drake, in his address to the jury, "acted as a mob. Coppock, a teacher of government, should in all ways uphold government. We need Americanism, respect of courts and officials."

"Not illegal."

Defense Attorney L. T. Ge-nung said it "was not illegal for the defendants to ask that justice be done."

He called attention to the fact that in spite of the "violent and tumultuous assembly" charge, Mrs. Boquette did not even ask the group to leave her house; could have held them in contempt of court if they had been creating a disturbance.

Confers With Committee

Kansas Governor to Act Against Discrimination

Sats. 11-29-47

LAWRENCE, Kan.—(ANP)—Governor Frank Carlson agreed last week to cooperate against discrimination by submitting to the State Legislative Council recommendations of the Lawrence League for the Practice of Democracy.

The request of the league was based on the recently published report, "To Secure These Rights," made by President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights. The committee of the Lawrence League, who conferred with the Governor Nov. 13, were Morton Davis, executive secretary; Ned Linegar, Mrs. Carrie Davis and Miss Mary McCracken.

Recommended changes in Kansas law made by the committee were:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The passage of a comprehensive and effective civil rights law which will (a) apply to all businesses which cater to the public; (b) eliminate all references to licensing; (c) set up adequate penalties and make adequate provisions for strict enforcement.

2. A State fair employment practices act which will (a) set up a separate law enforcement commission, adequately staffed and provided with a budget which allows it to do a comprehensive State-wide job, and which is given the authority to enforce compliance with the act; (b) make provisions for a thorough program of public education.

3. A law forbidding the State or any of its parts to purchase supplies or services from any person or concern practicing discrimination. 11-29-47

SCHOOL BIAS HIT

4. A law nullifying the right of first-class cities to practice segregation in elementary schools, and at the same time insuring adherence to the Fair Employment Practices Act, with regard to the hiring of teachers, in order that members of the minority groups affected by the law be protected.

5. A law extending the rights of full participation in all student activities, including athletics, to all students in State colleges and universities, and opening all dormitories to Negro students on equal basis with white students.

6. A law making it a criminal offense for labor unions and professional societies to refuse membership because of race or color.

7. A law forbidding "restrictive covenants" based upon race or color.

Negro Sues City For Closing His Business

Meridian, Miss., Jan. 9.—(P)—Papers have been served on Mayor F. L. Jacobs and City Detective Roy Gunn following civil action for recovery of \$50,000 filed in Circuit Court here by J. B. Moore, Negro, through his attorney, Cecil A. Rogers, against Detective Gunn and the City of Meridian, based on the declared allegation that Gunn illegally closed the Negro's place of business. *Sat. 1-10-47*

Chief of Police O. A. Booker, Meridian, said that the Moore place was proving a nuisance and the place was ordered closed. Gunn said he was merely carrying out orders.

City records show complaints by residents of the Moore place are against loud playing of a music box and that cases and convictions charging violating of the liquor law are recorded against Moore in the past.

Colorado Theatre Ordered to Pay \$600 for Ejecting Patron

Colorado Springs, Col. (ANP)—A \$617.25 judgment was awarded Mrs. Juanita Hairston last week against Interstate Theaters by District Judge G. Russell Miller as a result of a \$15,075 suit filed by her last year on a complaint that she was humiliated by being ejected from the Ute Theater while attending a midnight show on Apr. 1. *Sat. 4-5-47*

Judge Miller allowed her \$117.25 for the loss of the purse, and \$500 damages on the second count, based on violation of the Colorado civil liberties law which guarantees rights to all, no matter what their creed or color. Her request for the \$500 maximum was granted.

Sues for \$50,000 In La. Lynch Case

By LUCIUS JONES
(Louisiana Bureau)

NEW ORLEANS—Charging that he failed utterly in his duty to safely keep and protect her former GI husband, the late Corp. John C. Jones, and that, in this failure, he became liable to her and her small daughter for the death of their husband and father, Mrs. Carrie Lee Jones filed suit last week for \$50,000 damages against Oscar H. Haynes Sr., sheriff of Webster Parish, and his surety company, in the U. S. District Court for Western Louisiana in Shreveport.

Lawsuits

Corporal Jones, resident of Cotton Valley, La., was lynched by a mob near Minden, La., Aug. 8, 1946, with his younger cousin, Albert (Sonnyman) Harris, who after being shot, escaped to Texas and finally to the Midwest and the East with the aid of the NAACP because of his alertness in feigning death until his oppressors had quit the lynch scene. *Sat. 8-16-47*

NAACP ALERT The heinous crime, veiled in secrecy for many weeks after the atrocity, was finally unearthed and elevated to national headline proportions in the daily and weekly newspapers as well as over the radio, due largely to the courage and alertness of Executive Secretary Daniel E. Byrd of the NAACP in New Orleans, who is also State head of NAACP branches; two Courier newsmen and one Informer-Sentinel reporter.

These men personally investigated the lynching, reported it to the National NAACP and the U. S. Department of Justice.

Arrested later were six of the men identified as participants in or accessories to the lynching, three of whom were named by The Courier in its account of the tragedy. But these men, after several hearings in which Federal law enforcement authorities were represented, were acquitted. Young Harris, carefully guarded by Federal men after being brought here from the East to testify, was the key witness and positively identified Sheriff Haynes and told of the part he played in making the lynching possible.

TUREAUD FILES SUIT

The petition by the soldier's widow was filed by Atty. A. P. Tureaud of this city, in behalf of Mrs. Jones and her 5-year-old daughter Myrtis Ann. Mrs. Jones is now a resident of California, having gone there for security after the brutal tragedy. *Sat. 8-16-47*

The motive for the lynching of Jones and attempted lynching of 17-year-old Harris was suspicion of "spying on a white woman." Jones was seized at the threshold of the Minden jail and taken by a dozen or more masked white men in automobiles to a densely wooded section between Minden and Cotton Valley known as Dorcheat Bayou. He was shot and his body badly mutilated by beating with some solid object, while Harris was flogged unmercifully and left for dead.

EVIDENCE GIVEN FBI

NAACP investigators and newsmen went to the lynch scene later and, by thorough probing, learned the identity of several men connected with the lynching. These names were turned over to the FBI. The arrests that followed caught Benjamin Gantt, Minden police chief; Deputy Sheriff Haynes and his son, Oscar H. Haynes Jr., of Minden; Deputy Sheriff Charles M. Edwards

Virginian Asks \$75,000 Damages From Justice

Atlanta, Ga.
Charges Judge Deprived Her

Of Rights

RICHMOND, Va. —(NNPA)— In a suit filed in the United States District Court here last Tuesday, Mrs. Ora Carter, 23, seeks damages of \$75,000 from Police Court Justice Carleton E. Jewett.

She charges that Judge Jewett deprived her of her constitutional rights by ordering her "forcefully taken" to a "dungeon" with her 3-month old baby.

The suit was brought in federal court after a companion suit for damages of \$50,000, filed in City Court in behalf of the child, was recently dismissed on a demurrer. (A demurrer admits the facts but denies that a cause of action exists.)

Howard Carwile, attorney for Mrs. Carter, said he would appeal the ruling of the City Court to the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. *Sat. 8-16-47*

MALICE CHARGED Mrs. Carter charges that the acts of Judge Jewett were "willful and malicious and were perpetrated upon the plaintiff because of her race and color."

Her complaint is based upon the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibits a state from discriminating against any person because of race, color or creed, and the Eighth Amendment, outlawing "cruel and unusual punishment."

Mrs. Carter alleges that Justice Jewett order her, after conviction upon a morals charge, to be locked up in the "dungeon or bull pen" in the basement of the police court jail. *Tues. 9-16-47*

She adds that she was assaulted by the bailiff, who was ordered to take her and the child to the jail.

INVARIABLE CUSTOM

It has always been the invariable custom of Justice Jewett to place colored women prisoners in the dungeon or bull pen of his court, Mrs. Carter charges.

On the other hand, she states, it has been his custom to have white women prisoners who come before him and turned over to the matron of his court for custody and safekeeping until their conviction or acquittal. White women, who are convicted, she alleges, still are not put in the dungeon or bull pen but are again turned over to the matron.

Judge Jewett, she avers, never places white women prisoners in the dungeon or bull pen of his court.

On the other hand, she states, it has been his invariable custom to place colored women prisoners in the dungeon or bull pen, where they are intermingled with white and colored prisoners, in close proximity to the white men's toilet.

The dungeon is described as a "poorly ventilated dungeon, which reeks of filth, vast accumulations of bootleg whiskey, foul functions and odors and vulgar loquacity."

Mrs. Carter was convicted in Justice Jewett's court May 7 of consummate his evil design" to vigorous objections when she was ordered taken to the dungeon or bull pen with the "sucking baby in her arms."

SPEAKS LIGHTLY

The complaint states that Justice Jewett spoke lightly of Mr. Carwile's objections and proceeded "to consummate his evil design" or locking her up with her 3-month old baby in her arms.

Mrs. Carter says she and her baby were forcefully taken to the dungeon or bull pen, where she was held for several hours and the baby was held for one hour.

"While languishing in this dungeon," he complaint states, Mrs. Carter "caressed her little baby girl who was sneezing, coughing and taking cold because of the chilly, dirty, dusty and dank atmosphere of the said dungeon or bull pen."

Mrs. Carter says her baby developed a cold as a result of confinement in the jail and later required medical attention.

CHILD SUIT DISMISSED

The suit in behalf of the child was dismissed in Law and Equity Court when City Attorney J. Elliott Drinard, counsel for Justice Jewett, filed a demurrer in which it was contended that Mrs. Carter rather than Justice Jewett, was responsible for the baby's confinement. *Tues. 9-16-47*

The demurrer also set out that the imprisonment could not have

the heat and slumped to the floor in his own corner. He took a count of tight before rising and then traded punches with Moore. It was then that he signalled to the referee to stop the bout.

Moore himself almost collapsed after his arm had been raised for the technical knockout.

The fight drew 7,916 paid customers, who contributed a gross gate of \$33,652 and a net of \$25,297.52

Virginian Charges 50-Year Employer Called Him 'Thief'

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat-8-16-47

RICHMOND, Va.—A compromise judgment for \$4,000 plus costs of two lawsuits has been signed by Judge Haskins Hobson of Law and Equity Court, Part II, in favor of Will Davis, 76, of Clarksville, against Mrs. Annie W. Suhor of 3602 Chamberlayne Avenue, his former employer.

Davis who spent almost fifty years as a servant in the family of Mrs. Suhor, sued her for libel on the grounds that she wrote letters in which she said he was "a thief." Until January, 1945, Davis managed a farm for Mrs. Suhor.

EARLIER VERDICT

Davis' suit against Mrs. Suhor was tried twice in Law and Equity Court, Part II. Last October a jury awarded him a verdict for \$17,500, but Judge Hobson set it aside on the grounds that it was excessive.

Last month another jury awarded Davis a verdict for \$6,000.

In her letters, which were read in court, Mrs. Suhor referred to Davis as a thief and threatened him with "everlasting flames." As a result, Davis said, his reputation was damaged and he was unable to obtain employment.

INCOMPETENCE

At the second trial counsel for Mrs. Suhor pleaded that she was mentally incompetent. It was the first time such a plea had been made as a defense to a libel suit in Virginia since 1817.

A physician and a psychiatrist testified at the second trial that Mrs. Suhor told them she looked at a photograph of her father, who died about two years ago, and that a ball of fire shot out of the picture and then she saw her father and he told her he would look after her.

Davis' attorneys contended that Mrs. Suhor was mentally competent and had managed her business affairs well.

Woman Awarded \$500 In Civil Rights Fight

Chicago, Ill.
Appendix
Sat. 6-7-47
CLEVELAND, Ohio—Mrs. Albert Crawford, 21, was awarded \$500 last week when Municipal Judge A. M. Kovach returned a civil rights verdict against the Humphrey Co., operators of Euclid Beach Park, for violation of the civil rights statute.

The statute was violated last July, Mrs. Crawford charged, when the company refused her

admission to the Euclid Beach Park dance floor because of her race.

DIXIE JURY PLAYS FAIR

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
**Awards N.C. Mortician
\$11,500 for Injuries**
11-22-47. Mo Sat.

TARBORO, N.C.—One of the largest awards in a civil suit for damages ever won by a colored plaintiff against a white defendant in this State, was recorded here last Friday when Jesse Baker, young undertaker, was awarded \$11,500 against Martin R. Perrot, white.

An all-white jury took less than an hour to reach a decision after listening to testimony by witnesses over a two-day period in Edgemont County Superior Court. *11-22-47*

Sued for \$40,000

Baker sued Perrot for \$40,000 for loss of his left leg and fracture of his right leg in a highway accident in Nov., 1946, when Perrot's car collided with Baker's hearse. *Sat.*

Perrot's attorneys filed notice of appeal to the State Supreme Court and Judge Clawson Williams set bond at \$100 while the appeal is being prepared.

Collision Described

Baker testified that he was returning from Greensboro with his hearse and was being followed by his assistant, James Hart, both of whose legs were also fractured, and who was driving one of Baker's cars.

In rounding a curve, Baker swung out and missed a truck driven by J. F. Case, white, which was struck by Hart a few minutes later. Baker stopped his hearse and Hart parked behind him.

Lights Blamed

While the three men were standing by the roadside discussing the accident, a car driven by Perrot

rounded the curve. *11-22-47*
In swinging out to avoid hitting the truck, Perrot's car struck Baker and Hart. Perrot testified that he was blinded by the lights, making the accident unavoidable.

Still Suffering

Baker told the jury further that he still finds it difficult to wear an artificial leg, and still experiences "a great deal of pain" in getting about.

The undertaker's wife testified as to his treatment at a hospital in Raleigh.

1. 1947

CIVIL RIGHTS SURVEY SET

since
Jersey Governor Picks Group to
Study Ban on Speakers

New York, N.Y. 11
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

TRENTON, N. J. Nov. 17—
Membership of a special citizens'
committee to study alleged abuses
to civil rights in New Jersey will
be announced tomorrow by Gov.
Alfred E. Driscoll. *11-18-47*

The Governor acted to create the
committee after Communist lead-
ers in the state and others declared
that use of meeting places for
speaking programs had been re-
fused to them in Newark and Tren-
ton. In the latter city a booing
crowd prevented a Communist
meeting at which Gerhart Eisler,
national party leader, was to have
been the principal speaker. *2nd*

In Newark, Dr. Frank Kingdon,
Independent Democratic candidate
for United States Senator, charged
that he had been refused by sev-
eral operators of halls when he
sought a place to speak.

Dr. Wilbur E. Saunders, head
master of Peddie School at Hights-
town, has been chosen as commit-
tee chairman by the Governor.

2. Named to New Jersey Civil Rights Committee

TRENTON, N. J.—(ANP)—Mrs.
Omega V. Mason, Salem, former
president of the New Jersey State
Federation of Colored Women's
clubs, and Atty. Oliver Randolph,
Newark, former assistant Federal
District Attorney, were named as
members of Gov. Alfred E. Dis-
coll's seventeen man committee to
investigate abuses in State civil
liberties and map a course of cor-
rective action, it was disclosed
here last Thursday. *12-13-47*

11 1947 The Issues of Freedom Are Aired In the Forum

SUDDENLY the garish performance of the Committee on Un-American Activities, its hot pursuit of radicals in Hollywood, is made to appear a side-show. Its clatter becomes thin and querulous, half farcical. The issue of civil rights and of freedom to think, speak, work and live as one pleases is projected onto a broader stage. *Thu. 10-30-47*

This is the effect of the impressive report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. As it was released by formal presentation to Mr. TRUMAN yesterday, it brought into the open the whole immense question of tolerance, justice and the integrity of democratic principle which was raised in the Bill of Rights and never quite satisfactorily answered.

There is no question but that the report, in its proposals for positive action to strengthen and guarantee essential American rights, has started a debate that will ring in the forums a long time to come. A minor part of the debate already is raised as the Red-hunting Committee on Un-American Activities seeks to throw into jail a group of men for refusing to answer its questions. Under our civil system, never has an accused man been under compulsion to answer a question to his own hurt. How far may Congress, as a part of Government, go? How valid are the objectives of a blackguarding inquisition of men who may honestly hold ideas abhorrent to the vast majority? *10-30-47*

In other words, what have we to fear? The President's Committee seems to agree that we have most to fear prejudice, and the ignorance on which prejudice breeds. It is prejudice and its violent indulgence that endangers the four essential rights for which the committee set out to find means of protection. These are: the right to safety and security of the person; the right to citizenship and its privilege; the right to freedom of conscience and expression; the right to equality of opportunity.

Up to this point, it is quite likely that everybody will agree. In token, there has been agreement since the beginning of the United States. Only when the abstractions are broken down into parts, and we pick them up one by one for a closer look, do the doubts and questions begin.

Look, one says that "there is no adequate defense of segregation . . . the Committee recommends, in general, the elimination of segregation based on race, color, creed or national origin, from American life."

The debate is on at once. The committee would condition Federal grants-in-aid on absence of discrimination. It proposes a fair employment practice law. It would abolish discrimination in schools, in "restrictive covenants" as to housing, in health services, public jobs, railroad travel and public accommodation. The report was written by a group of 15 widely known Americans, including two Southerners—Dr. FRANK P. GRAHAM, president of the University of North Carolina, and Mrs. M. E. TILLY, of Atlanta, secretary of the department of social relations, Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church.

President's Committee on Civil Rights

The array of recommendations is massive. These are selected as among the more interesting. The list is to be found in the dispatches elsewhere in this newspaper. But there is no point in any one of them that can or should be dismissed as chimerical, impractical or obnoxious to tradition. The answers are clear enough. If the answers and the solutions cannot be applied at once, it is a confession of imperfections that sooner or later must be remedied—by education, by religion, by positive assurances from the instruments of society. Lynchings, "white primaries," witch-hunts—these are betrayals of weakness and error.

The Civil Rights Report

The report of the President's fifteen-member Civil Rights Committee, named last December to inquire into and make recommendations for the improvement of the civil rights of minority groups in America, is a challenging and inspiring enunciation of principles upon which America must seek to become a happier and safer home for minorities, a true symbol of hope for all races and classes, and a rock of security in a troubled world. Broad in scope and liberal in approach, the report seeks to curb mob violence, reduce discrimination in employment, end poll tax abuses, and the enactment of a statute protecting the rights of qualified persons to vote in federal and state primaries and other elections without interference.

The foundation for the report was outlined in unmistakably clear and sincere tones by President Truman himself, when last June, he told the delegates to the 38th annual convention of The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People:

"That every man should have the right to a decent home, the right to an education, the right to a worthwhile job, the right to an equal share in making the decisions through the ballot, and the right to a fair trial in a fair court." *Sun. 11-2-47*

That many of American minority groups, Negroes especially, suffer the indignity of insult, the harrowing fear of intimidation and the threat of physical injury and mob violence, can be verified in a thousand different ways in the South and in many parts of the North during the routine happenings of a month. Experience has shown that most of the states will not or have not, taken advantage of their opportunity to protect and secure the life and limb of minorities. The committee is now proposing that the Federal Government become a defender of the rights and equalities of all Americans; that America can no longer be satisfied with a civil liberties program written on the statute books, but must advance a step farther and guarantee that the individual be protected from the possibility of tyranny, and that the prejudice and intolerance in which these evils are rooted must be uprooted.

Upon the Congress of the United States rests the responsibility for enactment into law these far-reaching, but positively sane, recommendations. For America cannot wait another decade or another generation to correct these abuses. We must cure them now.

You Can't Legislate Tolerance

Constitution, Atlanta
President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights has recommended that Congress and the various State Legislatures outlaw segregation and race discrimination immediately. *Fri. 10-31-47*

As a component part of its program the Committee favors enactment of Federal anti-lynching, anti-poll tax and fair employment practices statutes.

From time to time in the past The Constitution has made its position clear in respect to such laws.

We still are of the opinion that tolerance, like temperance, is not amenable to legislation.

After some 15 years of a "noble experiment," the American people finally admitted in 1933 that temperance in the consumption of alcoholic beverages could not be achieved by passing a law.

And if Congress or the State legislative bodies should adopt the recommendations of President Truman's Committee, it would be found that this legislation, too, was directed against a phantom.

The South is not the only section that would be affected by such laws. The situation in our region is worse only by reason of the more even distribution of whites and Negroes than one finds on the West Coast in respect to whites and Japanese and Chinese, in the Southwest in respect to Mexicans and whites, and in the larger cities of the North where the percentage of foreign-born is heavy. *Th. 10-31-47*

Even now New York City is struggling under a heavy influx of Puerto Ricans, who, incidentally, are American citizens. But even so large a city has been unable to assimilate a comparatively small number of immigrants. And doubtless it will be years before the task is completed.

However laudable may be the objectives laid down by the President's Committee, little good is accomplished, and much harm may result, from any attempt to force reforms which legitimately may come only in the course of time.

We believe the Committee's insistence

Civil Rights
proper or improper is immaterial. It is *Constitution, Atlanta*
there, and it can be eradicated not by Reports Available
laws but only by the evolutionary process
of the President's Committee
on Civil Rights can be ordered from
the Government Printing Office at
\$1 each. In quantities of 100 or more
seventy five cents each. Money must
be sent with order to Superintendent of Documents.

PAIR CHARGED WITH VIOLATING FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS STATUTE

New Orleans--an indictment charging the town marshall of Gonzales, Ascension Parish, La. and a deputy marshall with violation of the Federal Civil Rights statute in connection with the alleged false arrest of a white physician who protested the jailing of his Negro maid, was returned here Thursday by the federal grand jury.

Under charges are own Marshall Leslie Paul Bourque and Deputy Marshall Hector Young. The incident charges that the two officials violated the civil liberties provisions of the constitution.

The officers were accused of arresting, beating and depriving of liberty Dr. Forrest Earl Baker of Gonzales on June 6, 1946 when he attempted to intercede on behalf of his maid, Mrs. Hilda Bringier, who had been fined in connection with a disturbance in a dance hall at Gonzales.

The indictment charged that Bourque and Young "unlawfully and without cause" locked the physician in the Gonzales jail by using force and against his will. It further charged that the two men "beat, abused and cruelly maltreated" Dr. Baker with their fists and blackjack and with "other unknown weapons" while enroute to the jail.

The second count of the indictment charged the two officers illegally arrested Mrs. Bringer and deprived her of her liberty without due process of law on the same date by incarcerating her without criminal charges having been filed and denying her the right and privilege of being tried in courts of law.

The beating of the doctor allegedly took place in the town marshall's automobile while Dr. Baker was being taken to jail.

The physician said he was attacked when he and his wife went to the Town Marshall's office to investigate a fine imposed on their maid which they considered unfair.

The maid had been arrested with a number of other persons in connection with a fight in a dance hall at Gonzales, it was stated.

When officers arrived at the hall some time after the disturbance, they asked for all who were in the hall at the time of the fight to raise their hands although she had arrived after the fight had subsided.

"The girl was not even there when the fight took place and we didn't think it was fair," the doctor stated. "When we went to the town marshall's office to ask about the charges, he said he would go out and arrest the girl again," Dr. Baker said. In a discussion that followed one of the officers struck him in the mouth loosening several teeth, he said.

United States Attorney Herbert W. Christenberry and Robert Weinstein, and assistant, who presented the cast to the grand jury, asked Federal Judge Wayne G. Borah to issue capiases for the defendants' arrest. Their bonds were set at \$5000 each.

The Informer, Houston, Tex. 4-15-47

Compares Significance To Greatest Document

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) President Truman declared last Wednesday that he hoped the report of the President's Civil Rights Committee would be "an American charter of human freedom in our

time." Sun. 11-2-47
The committee called at the White House and submitted to him its 178 page report covering its studies of violations of civil rights and recommendations of methods

which may be adopted to strengthen and safeguard these rights.

In his executive order of December 5, last, creating the committee, Mr. Truman had directed it to make such a study and report. Upon the rendition of the report last Wednesday, the committee ceased to exist.

ISSUES STATEMENT

After receiving the report, the President issued the following state

ment:

"The President's Civil Rights Committee has just submitted its report. I am going to read and study this report with great care and I recommend to all my countrymen that they do the same thing. I created this committee with a sense of urgency. No sooner were we finished with the war than racial and religious intolerance began to appear and threaten the

very things we had just fought for.

"In times past, when our American freedoms were threatened, groups of our citizens banded together and set out on paper the principles they felt would preserve freedom and the kinds of action that would defend freedom.

CITES TITLE

"The Declaration of Independence was that kind of document, and I notice that the title of this report (To Secure These Rights) is taken from the Declarations of Independence. I hope this committee has given us as broad a document as that—an American charter of human freedom in our time.

"The need for such a charter was never greater than at this moment. Men of good will everywhere are striving, under great difficulties, to create a world-wide moral order, firmly established in the life of nations. For us here in America, a new charter of human freedom will be a guide for our action; and in the American goal—the integrity of the individual human being, sustained by the moral consensus of the whole nation, protected by a government based on equal freedom under just laws.

"The members of this committee owe them a debt of gratitude. I am busy men and women. We all feel I am speaking for all Americans when I thank them for their unselfish, devoted service."

A Blueprint For Democracy

THE COMMITTEE has proposed a joint federal-state program to strengthen the machinery for the protection of civil rights; it has not proposed reliance solely in the national government. In some cases it recognizes that only the uniformity of federal law can hold any promise of effectiveness. In other instances it recommends that states initiate action. In still others it recommends remedial legislation by both federal and state legislatures.

It has not equivocated. It has urged action at every major point where our practices, be they the consequence of federal or state action or inaction, are at variance with our vaunted democratic principles. It has provided the blueprint for putting democracy into practice. The extent to which its recommendations are adopted will test the sincerity of this nation's people.

"As the committee concludes this report we would remind ourselves that the future of our nation rests upon the character, the vision, the high principles of our people. Democracy, brotherhood, human rights—these are practical expressions of the eternal

worth of every child of God. With His which there will be equal opportunity for all."

Civil Rights Group Active

WASHINGTON — At a second session of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, held in the White House last week, Dr. Channing H. Tobias of New York and Atty. Sadie T. Alexander, Philadelphia, were named to sub-committees formed to study various phases of civil liberties before the next meeting, March 5 and 6.

Dr. Tobias was assigned to a sub-committee to study social, economic and educational aspects of promoting the cause of civil liberty throughout the country. Mrs. Alexander was named to a group to consider and determine the adequacy of existing Federal legislation and to recommend proposed new legislation.

Miss Frances Williams, former OPA executive, has been appointed to the committee as an assistant to Robert K. Carr, executive secretary of the President's Committee.

However, these conditions have never been brought home to all Americans in such a clear cut fashion as in this report which has been given the fullest publicity through all media. The problem of the Negro and other minority groups is now before the public in a manner never equaled before.

"The program of action combines the major portions of the programs of action of all groups fighting for full citizenship rights for all Americans. It forms a common ground upon which all such groups can work. It presents a minimum program for legislative and executive departments of the United States and the several states. It presents a program around which all forces can unite in bringing forth a new Bill of Rights, a new Magna Charta, or a new type of phrase for a body of laws, regulations and executive enforcement to make the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution mean what they say.

"The report gives the program of many so-called 'liberals' and calls for action now.

"The full significance of the need for the enactment of the program of the President's Committee is obvious when we realize that this carefully documented report of admittedly 'un-American activities' within our country and the carefully worked out program were prepared in a period of eleven months. This should be compared with the demonstration of the interest of the United States Congress in 'un-American Activities, which has been operating for years and years and has reached the point of confining

all of its time to an alleged investigation of the beliefs of some Americans and some writers and directors in Hollywood.

"If the President's Committee's report is to mean anything, there must be the fullest cooperation of all Americans to reform congressional procedure in order to require Congress to take action against the 'un-American activities' in the Report of the President's Committee instead of wasting its time and efforts in seeking to impose 'thought control' on American citizens."

Appointment Of Rights Committee Said High Point

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The high point of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights is that only in the United States would the head of the government appoint a committee to inquire into the faults of the government and ask for a report on what are the evils.

That was the declaration of Mrs. Sadie T. Alexander, of Philadelphia, a member of the committee, after submission of the report to the President last Wednesday.

Commenting on the report, Mrs. Alexander, assistant city solicitor of Philadelphia, said:

"This report indicates that we are concerned if there is one lynching in America. While the United Nations discuss 75,000,000 people, we are concerned about 35,000 in Guam and American Samoa, and until the civil rights of every individual are equally protected we have not attained the goal of the American heritage of freedom and equality.

"We can fight ideas of other nations only with better ideas, and there is none greater than the American heritage we are seeking to protect."

Wise Praises 'Rights' Plan

NEW YORK.—Lauding the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, called on President Truman to keep the committee in existence to obtain the adoption of its recommendations. Dr. Wise urged immediate executive and legislative action for "correc-

President's Committee on Civil Rights

tion of the evils demonstrated by the committee . . . by enacting legislation to end discrimination in employment and to stop the crime of lynching. Immediate action by Congress on poll tax laws and the elimination of the Jim Crow evil is demanded by every decent citizen of our country.

Dr. Wise expressed his particular gratification with the committee's recommendations to State Legislatures that they enact fair education practice laws for public and private non-sectarian educational institutions. He also called attention to President Truman's address of last June in which the President promised full executive support of urgently needed civil rights legislation.

Juxtaposing the strong effect of statutes against the "puny" efforts to achieve good will propaganda, Dr. Wise indicated that he had long held the belief now expressed in the findings of the President's Committee that civil rights legislation would be the most significant stride toward effecting racial and religious harmony in America.

Social Equality
Editor Constitution. I am just wondering if the Zebras in Georgia who pooh-poohed claims that complete social equality for Negroes was the aim of enemies of the South have read the findings of the President's Civil Rights Committee. This is the most damnable thing I ever read and the time is now at hand when red blooded Southern white men should tell that crowd in language they will be able to understand that we do not propose to tolerate any such situation. Let them understand that we will wade through blood up to our necks before we will have this blight forced upon the culture and traditions of the Southern white race.

I have not found a Georgia Zebra who says that he favors social equality. It is my judgment that when the people of this State all realize the true purposes of these Communistic, South-hating organizations who want to put the Negro's heel on the Southern white man's throat, all of Georgia will rise up in solid phalanx and the whole Nation will reap the harvest of their righteous indignation. The Southern white man has not forgotten how to fight and he is becoming really aroused and angry.

JOHN A. WAGNON.
CREATED EQUAL

The central point in the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights is the reaffirmation of an old

principle—one too often misunderstood, ignored and even jeered at in these days. This is, as Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence, that "all men are created equal." The words never meant that all men were equal in intelligence, physical strength or character. They meant that men were equal before the law. They have come to mean more: that men are equal, in the language of this report, in "an essential dignity and integrity."

Our predecessors did not live up to what they said. Some of them were slaveholders—and slaves were not treated as men or as equals. We are the Committee testifies, and as we all know. Minorities, in particular Negro minorities, are disfranchised, denied civil rights and subject to cruel and unusual punishments for crimes of which they have not been duly convicted. Discriminations that are unconstitutional, illegal and contrary to American tradition prevail even in the District of Columbia, under federal rule. The situation there, "the Committee feels most deeply is intolerable."

The Committee makes bold recommendations, not all of which will get through Congress as long as the filibuster is permitted in the Senate. In the case of the poll tax, probably in the case of any attempt to pass a national Fair Employment Practices Act, the "right" to filibuster may prevail over equality before the law and equality of opportunity. We may even question whether equal rights—equality in employment; equality in education, including private, tax-exempt educational facilities; equality in health and medical services; equality in public accommodations where segregation is enforced—can be made real by any law in some communities. The ignorant must be taught. But we have made progress: in the armed services, in labor unions, in laws in Northern states, in fairer and more liberal treatment of the Negro American in various Southern states.

We can make more progress, in which the Federal Government, representing the whole people, must take increased responsibility. We can, as the Committee suggests, make defense of the individual's "dignity and integrity" an organized function of the Department of Justice, of committees in Congress and of a standing executive commission. We need no new tradition. We need not go beyond Jefferson's noble words. We need to accept in fullness, for modern conditions, an old

tradition, that men should not be discriminated against for race, religion or belief. We owe this to ourselves, individually and collectively. We owe it to our position in the world: "The United States is not so strong, the final triumph of the democratic ideal so inevitable that we can ignore what the world thinks of us on our record."

With freedom and equality goes responsibility. The Committee might have underlined this truth more even than it did. We have a right to demand that enemies of our democratic system disclose themselves and their sources of revenue. But in the last analysis, in Congressional hearings or elsewhere, it is better that one man be allowed to abuse his freedom than that another be wrongly deprived of it.

Discrimination End Is Urged By Committee

Truman's Civil Rights Unit Says Do It Now; Red Expose Approved

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—(AP)

—President Truman's committee on civil rights today recommended that Congress and the state legislatures outlaw segregation and discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin—and do it "now."

The committee also spoke out against "public excitement" on the Communist question, but declared that real Communists and Fascists should be exposed.

"It is natural and proper for good citizens to worry about the activities of these groups," its report said.

In a sweeping review of the whole U. S. Civil rights field, the committee made 35 specific recommendations to strengthen "the American way" of life and delved into explosive issues which have embroiled Congress in some of its bitterest struggles.

Discrimination against Negroes in the South was criticized at length, but other regions in the North and West were singled out for violations of civil rights. The nation's capital itself was scored as "a graphic illustration of a failure of democracy" and as the gateway to "Jim Crow" transportation in the South.

Truman Hails It
President Truman hailed the report with a statement saying

lynching, anti-poll tax and fair employment practice laws.
1. Federal and state laws to prevent racial or religious segregation and discrimination in such places as trains, buses, schools, theaters, hotels and restaurants.
2. State laws barring "re-

strictive covenants" in which property owners bind themselves not to sell or lease to undesirables."

The report, made public by the White House, declared:

"We need to guarantee the same rights to every person regardless of who he is, where he lives, or what his racial, religious or national origins are."

And it said "the time is now" for remedial measures, for three reasons: Moral, economic and international.

"The United States is not so strong, the final triumph of the democratic ideal is not so inevitable that we can ignore what the world thinks of us or our record," the report continued.

Corrective steps are needed, it said, to attain a fuller realization of "the American way" of freedom and equality.

While many pages of the report deal with the South and with Negroes, the committee said other sections have their "interferences" with civil rights. Discussing the nation-wide picture it cited these examples:

Six lynchings in 1946; police brutality; racial discrimination in the armed services; "unfair" court trials of persons from minority groups; the wartime evacuation of Japanese-Americans from the west coast; denial of American citizenship to some alien groups; and denial of voting rights.

"Legally-enforced segregation has been largely limited to the South, but segregation is also widely prevalent in the North; particularly in housing and in hotel and restaurant accommodations," the report said.

Administration Unready to Act On Civil Rights

By WILLARD SHELTON
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON

Kipling has a poem picturing the devil as whispering in the ear of sundry desperate human beings, "It's clever, but is it art?"

The question to be asked about the report of President Truman's Civil Rights Committee is:

"It's a penetrating farsighted document, but what are we going to do about it?"

Plans

It appears today that, though the President emphasized the importance of an "American Charter for Human Freedom," the Administration has no plans:

¶ To sponsor new legislation embodying the more drastic and delicate proposals of the committee.

¶ To correct procedures in the President's own employe "loyalty" program criticized by the committee.

In the meantime, neither Repub-

lican nor Democratic Congressional leaders are saying whether they will introduce bills to put into effect new civil rights recommendations to:

¶ Make all Federal grants-in-aid to States dependent on the elimination of segregation and discrimination in State expenditure of such funds.

On Bias in The Armed Forces

¶ Eliminate segregation and discrimination in the armed forces.

¶ Wipe out Jim Crow laws or regulations in inter-State commerce.

¶ Prohibit Jim Crow schools, hospitals, housing regulations, and health programs in the District of Columbia.

President Truman has not yet had a chance to study the report in detail. White House Press Secretary Charles G. Ross said yesterday. When Sen. Scott Lucas (D., Ill.), Democratic whip, was asked what plans the Administration had to implement the civil rights program he replied:

"I don't know."

COP Not Ready Either

Republicans are equally unprepared to commit themselves.

Sen. Robert A. Taft (R., O.), who announced his candidacy for the Republican Presidential nomination last week, told reporters he had not read the report. So did Sen. Wayne Morse (R., Ore.), COP liberal who was called back to his home state due to the plane crash death of Gov. Earl Snell.

Bills now are pending to set up a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, sponsored by a bi-partisan group headed by Sen. Irving M. Ives (R., N. Y.), to abolish the poll tax and to make lynching a Federal offense. These measures also were recommended in the civil rights report.

None of the bills was reported out of committee at the last session.

Unless Republicans and liberal Democrats both push them with determination they may be killed, as in former years, by Southern Senate filibusters.

The situation regarding the President's loyalty program, operating under Executive Order 9835, seems equally stalemated.

The Civil Rights Committee recognized a need for the Government to employ "only citizens of unquestioned loyalty." It warned, however, that efforts to safeguard "loyalty" might lead to "dangerous" red hunting.

Some

Changes

Specifically the report demanded that accused employes be granted a bill of particular charges, the right to subpoena witnesses and documents, the right of cross-examination, a written decision, and the right of appeal.

No provision for these safeguards is written into Executive Order 9835, and regulations announced by various departments have been equally vague. When a department loyalty board or loyalty officer desires, the employe can be told that undefined "security" considerations block his right to confront witnesses against him.

Lifting Of Racial Barriers Condemned In Dixie Press

By the Associated Press

A recommendation of President Truman's Civil Rights Committee that all racial segregation be eliminated met cool if not antagonistic editorial comment in Southern newspapers.

The Nashville Banner said the thought "originated in the left wing of imported politics" and that if Truman adopted it as a plank for his platform "he would first have to crowd Henry (Wallace) off of it."

The recommendation was called a "bombastic demand for upheaval" by The Charlotte News, "unwarranted and impractical" by The Mobile Register, and "Not the answer" to the problem by The Chattanooga Times.

The Raleigh Times said that while the committee expressed "some worthwhile sentiments," its over-all recommendation would "do irreparable harm to interracial relations."

Editorial quotations follow: Nashville Banner: It is no accident, certainly that the hue and cry now echoed by this committee originated in the left wing of imported politics; is most assiduously cultivated by an agency personifying a political system under which there are no 'civil rights,' and that the recommendations are identical with what Henry Wallace has been hewing as his own plank. As a matter of fact, were Mr. Truman to stand on this platform, he would first have to crowd Henry off of it.

Charlotte News: The committee's bombastic demand for upheaval now, certain to kindle anew the flames of Southern resentment, will only serve to complicate that task (full realization of the democratic ideals of freedom and equality) and to delay its ultimate accomplishment.

Mobile Register: Something can be said for a portion of its proposals—in some cases much can be said. Yet the committee went to such lengths in the unwarranted and impractical—it showed so little regard for states rights and and so little respect for the South—that the merit in its report is more than offset by the unmerited.

Chattanooga Times: We are in agreement with many indictments as harsh as they are because we know them to be essentially true. The committee's recommendations, we believe, in some instances border upon the very thing it seeks to eliminate—the violation of civil rights. True, the committee's proposals concern themselves with civil rights of minorities but they tend to overlook similar rights of a majority as far as our own section is concerned. The South has a long way to go in the field of racial cooperation. But federal imposition of changes which would do violence to the region's basic structure is not the answer.

Raleigh Times: While the committee has expressed some worthwhile sentiments against racial and minority group discrimination, some of its recommendations are unfortunate, from the Southern viewpoint.

Its recommendation to ban all manner of racial segregation, if put into effect, would tend to do irreparable harm to interracial relations which have been steadily improving in the South over a period of years.

Poor Timing (11) Charleston, S.C. John Rankin and others of the candidates in and fairness. Charleston, S.C.

The President's civil rights committee was expected to make it report later this month. Instead it reported last week—just in time to make its recommendations a campaign issue in Mississippi where the voters are to choose a successor to Senator Theodore Bilbo tomorrow. There is, of course, still a chance that Mississippi will do better than most of the outsiders now. But it was a poor case of timing from Mississippi's point of view. a man who may represent the state with dignity

President Recognizes Big Job For His Civil Rights Committee

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
Sun. 1-19-47

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—As the first phase of its task the President's Committee on Civil Rights has embarked upon a study of how far the Federal Government may go under Constitutional limitations in protecting individuals in their civil rights.

Justice Department attorneys filed with the committee at its first meeting at the White House Wednesday an exhaustive brief giving the historical background of federal civil rights legislation, outlining important Supreme Court decisions, construing such legislation and pointing out weaknesses in existing law in the light of numerous civil rights violations which have come to the attention of that department.

In accord with the advice given the committee by President Truman to begin its work at the "grass roots."

"In the heart of the people them and organizations interested in themselves" the views of individuals Civil Liberties will be sought.

Charles E. Wilson, President of the General Electric Company, who was designated chairman of the Committee requested at the close of the meeting that such individuals and groups communicate their views in writing to the committee here in Washington. Office space is being sought for the committee in a building not far from the White House and a staff will be provided for it.

"The President's Committee on Civil Rights can only accomplish the objectives outlined in the President's directives if it truly represents the wishes of the people of this country," Mr. Wilson said adding:

EXPRESSION FROM ALL

"No group is capable of interpreting the rights of a free people without adequate expression from all statuses.

Mr. Wilson said the immediate task of the committee in its "very broad inquiry into the civil rights problem" was to review existing civil rights statutes and look into the possibility and advisability of legislation to strengthen those statutes.

"However, the President wants us to go beyond the immediate pro-

Asks Opinions From Various Parts Of Nation

blem of enforcement and get at the basic causes of civil rights violations and the occasional breakdown of local law enforcement," Mr. Wilson explained. *Sun. 1-19-47*

"This is a very large order indeed. It gets right down to the basic things we live for and live by. Everyone of us, I know, approaches this task with a sense of dedication and deep responsibility. As we enter upon it we know our work will be ineffectual unless we find in the public the same sense of dedication to the principle of civil rights that we ourselves feel."

CLARK IN OUTLINE

Attorney General Tom C. Clark met with the group and outlined some of the difficulties in enforcing existing civil rights laws.

In informal remarks to the committee, President Truman, without calling names, reminded the group of the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920's. He also spoke out against race discrimination and religious bigotry. The text of his informal statement follows:

"You have vitally important job. We are none of us entirely familiar with just how far the Federal Government under the Constitution has a right to go in these civil rights matters.

"I want our Bill of Rights implemented in fact. We have been trying to do this for 150 years. We are making progress, but we are not making progress fast enough. This country could very easily be faced with a situation similar to the one with which it was faced in 1922. That date was impressed on my mind because in 1922 I was running for my first elective office—County Judge of Jackson County—and there was an organization in that county that met on hills and burned crosses and worked behind sheets. There is a tendency in this country for that situation to develop again, unless we do something tangible to prevent it.

"I don't want to see any religious bigotry break out in this country as it did then."

Daily World

"You people can, I think, make a real contribution here, with the assistance of the Attorney General and the Office of the President, that will get us tangible results. Our work has got to start at the grass roots, and in starting at the grass roots, it has got to start in the hearts of the people themselves.

"I appreciate highly your willingness to spend your time on a matter of this kind. You may get more brickbats than bouquets. Your willingness to undertake the job shows that your hearts are in the right place."

"I know you will go to work in earnest and I hope that you will bring me something tangible by which we can accomplish the purposes which we have been trying to accomplish for 150 years, ever since the adoption of the Constitution."

MR. WILSON: "We will do our utmost, Mr. President. We all realize the complexities of the job that you are giving us, but we will do our best to work something out and hope it will be helpful."

PRESIDENT TRUMAN: "I am sure it will be. I have been very much alarmed at certain happenings around the country that go to show there is a latent spirit in some of us that isn't what it ought to be."

It has been difficult in some places to enforce even local laws I want the Attorney General to know just exactly how far he can go legally from the Federal Government's standpoint. I am a believer in the sovereignty of the individual and of the local governments. I don't think the Federal Government ought to be in a position to exercise dictatorial powers locally; but there are certain rights under the Constitution of the United States which I think the Federal Government has a right to protect. "It's a big job. Go to it."

President's Committee Gets To Work

Atlanta, Ga.
Wed. 2-12-47
WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) The President's Committee on

Civil Rights got down to work in a two-day session at the White House last Wednesday and Thursday by deciding to explore the civil liberties problem and authorizing a further examination of separate phases of it by subcommittees.

Meeting with the committee were representatives of the Justice Department. Activities of that department in the civil rights field were discussed.

Charles E. Wilson, committee chairman, announced the appointment of three subcommittees, as follows:

A committee to consider and determine the adequacy of existing federal legislation and to recommend proposed new legislation—the Right Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, of Boston; Francis P. Matthews of Omaha; Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina; John S. Dickey, president of Dartmouth College, and Mrs. Sadie T. Alexander, Philadelphia lawyer.

Broader Aspects

A committee to consider the broader social, economic and educational aspects of promoting civil liberty throughout the country—Charles Luckman, the Most Rev. Francis J. Haas, Bishop of Grand Rapids, Michigan; James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer of the Congress of Industrial Organizations; Channing H. Tobias of New York City and Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn of New York City.

A committee to consider the work of private organizations whose activities affect civil rights—Morris L. Ernest, New York lawyer and author; Mrs. M. E. Tilley of Atlanta; Borish Shiskin, economist for the American Federation of Labor, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., lawyer, New York City.

Mr. Wilson also announced that Mr. Dickey and Mr. Roosevelt would serve as vice chairmen of the committee and with him will constitute an executive committee.

Carr Secretary

The committee selected Robert E. Carr as executive secretary. He is professor and chairman of the Government Department at Dartmouth College and for two years has been engaged in a study of the civil rights problem under the sponsorship of Cornell Research in Civil Liberties which has a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. Mr. Carr's particular interest has been the work of the civil rights section of the Justice Department.

The subcommittees are expected to begin work at once. The full committee will meet again here March 5-6. Offices have been established at 1712 G Street, north-

west.

President Truman created the fifteen-member committee in December by executive order to draft recommendations with respect to the adoption or establishment by legislation or otherwise of more adequate and effective means and procedures for the protection of civil rights in this country.

COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Twenty-five years ago a young war veteran was running for county judge in Jackson County, Mo. An incident of that campaign that stuck in his memory was "an organization that met on hills and burned crosses and worked behind sheets." The things this organization was doing were such that its members were either afraid or ashamed to show their faces—no doubt a little of both. This week the young veteran, who is now President of the United States, told his newly appointed Committee on Civil Rights that "there is a tendency in this country for that situation to develop again unless we do something tangible to prevent it." The Ku Klux Klan still exists, though it is not the political power it once was. Georgia has the Columbians. A Bilbo in Mississippi can publicly warn half the electorate to stay away from the polls.

Civil rights are guaranteed in the Federal Constitution. So are States' rights. The President's Committee, with Charles E. Wilson as chairman, will consult with the Attorney General to determine just how far the Federal Government can go in protecting civil rights without violating the rights of states and communities. Many of us would suppose that it can go further than it has yet gone. The nation as a whole protects its citizens from outrage in foreign countries. It would be ironic if at least an equivalent protection could not constitutionally be provided at home. Mr. Wilson has an outstanding committee. Its report will be significant.

Drew Pearson

Truman Wars Against Bigotry

WASHINGTON—At the exact moment President Truman's tightrope-walking Secretary of War Bob Patterson was refusing to help beleaguered Gov. Ellis Arnall, of Georgia, President Truman himself was blasting Arnall's chief foe, the Ku Klux Klan.

Truman's blast took place at the first meeting of his Committee on Civil Rights, organized to combat bigotry and race prejudice. The president talked straight from the shoulder and the churchmen, business men and educators who comprise his committee were greatly impressed.

Truman committee, Wilson seemed more en-enthusiastic about racial prejudice also? There is no reason why we should shut our ears to the views of the old Columbians and Gerald L. K. Smith to give them a hearing. Our final report will be stronger if we hear both sides. Another proposal of the Civil Rights Committee considered was withholding federal funds from state universities which discriminated against Negroes.

Why not invite the Ku Klux Klan to the new committee? The giant Lever Brothers Soap Company, pontifical head of General Electric. Appointed chairman of the civil rights group because he

against racial or religious groups. Such a provision, introduced by Republican Sen. Langer, of North Dakota, two years ago, killed the federal education fund aimed at aiding public schools and raising teachers' salaries. When Langer introduced his non-discrimination amendment, Southern congressmen threatened a filibuster.

Six months ago this writer, challenging the Ku Klux Klan from the steps of the state capitol in Atlanta, wrote a column on the new "Cracker dictator" and his son, who had just started their return to power in Georgia. To get the full picture of what is going on in Georgia today, excerpts from that column may be worth repeating.

"Already Herman Talmadge," this column reported in July, "is preparing to run for the U. S. Senate or succeed his father. . . Like Hitler, once Talmadge gets into power, no opposition party can ever stop him. No better plan for fascism has ever been devised in the United States. . . The Georgia election looks like the most alarming political development in the nation. . . Like Hitler, elected by a minority of the voters, Talmadge also has a great radio technique. A total of 125 Georgia newspapers were against him, seven for, but his radio technique won out. . . Just as big business in Germany put up the money to finance Hitler, big business in Georgia financed Talmadge. . . As governor, he had put textile workers behind a barbed-wire concentration camp, and big business expects Talmadge to do it again."

Now that they have elected their 'Cracker dictator,' however, some business men are already worried for fear they have a bear by the tail. . . Talmadge boasts of having read 'Mein Kampf' seven times. He makes no secret of being a student of Hitlerian methods. During his previous 'reigns' as governor, Talmadge called out the militia 17 different times. For a while no one could get into the Highway Department without a military pass. Talmadge's chief use of the militia was to oust elected officials. It made no difference that the state treasurer had been duly elected by the people of Georgia, Talmadge called out the military and forcibly evicted him from office. When the treasurer locked the vault where state money was kept, Talmadge blew the door off the vault. . . For a while Talmadge spent the state's funds on a cash basis, with no record of expenditures. He employed an ex-racketeer to inspect the books of the universities, and if he didn't like them they were burned. . . Talmadge has promised to run Georgia just the way he did before. Those who know him say he is ruthless enough to do it."

Plea for Negro Rights

Lester B. Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League, asked the President's Committee on Civil Liberties to work for erasure of legal and extra-legal devices "by which Negroes are constantly frustrated in their search for the good things of American society."

CIVIL RIGHTS PLAN GIVEN COMMITTEE

American Jewish Group Ask

Presidential Body to Add Investigatory Powers

7-16-3-2-47

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 1—A national program to protect civil rights was presented by Dr. John Slawson, executive vice president of the American Jewish Committee, to the President's Committee on Civil Rights today. This program included plans to deal with violations of the basic privileges, and also to resist group dissension, race and religious discrimination, and bigotry of all kinds.

Through spoken testimony and three memoranda, Dr. Slawson dealt with a number of subjects. He proposed, for instance, to expand the powers of the civil rights section of the Department of Justice. This unit, he stated, should have investigatory powers and authority to initiate proceedings in civil rights cases without waiting for complaints.

Dr. Slawson urged passage of Federal anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bills, as well as enactment of the Ives-Norton bill to curb discrimination in employment. Likewise, he held, there should be Federal and state laws to assure against discrimination on grounds of race, creed or color in educational institutions receiving public funds.

States should pass, he said, bills regarding civil rights, fair employment and fair educational practices. There should also be legislation by the states outlawing restrictive real estate covenants. A civil rights bill for the District of Columbia, he contended, "would be a most effective way of dramatizing the problem to the nation."

CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP OPENS CAPITAL OFFICE

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6—As the result of a two-day conference at the White House, the President's Committee on Civil Rights has established a permanent office in Washington, with Robert K. Carr as executive secretary, it was announced today. Mr. Carr is professor and chairman of the Government department at Dartmouth College.

For the past two years, Mr. Carr has been engaged in a study under the sponsorship of Cornell Research in Civil Liberties, with a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. He has been studying the work of the Civil Liberties Section of the Justice Department.

Charles E. Wilson, its chairman, announced that John S. Dickey and Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. will serve as vice chairmen and as members

of the executive committee. He also announced the following subcommittees:

(1) A committee to consider and determine the adequacy of existing Federal legislation.

(2) A committee to consider the broader social, economic and educational aspects of promoting the cause of civil liberty throughout the country.

(3) A committee to consider the work of private organizations whose activities affect civil rights.

Truman Asks Aid In Fight On Bigotry

Courier-Journal

Washington, Jan. 15 (AP)—President Truman, recalling the sheet wearers and fiery crosses of 1922, today asked help to prevent a new outbreak of "religious bigotry."

Addressing his recently established Civil Rights Committee, which will seek means for extending greater protection to racial and religious minorities, the President did not mention the Ku Klux Klan by name. He recalled, however, that when he was running for County judge of Jackson County, Missouri, in 1922, "there was an organization in that county that met on hills and burned crosses and worked behind sheets."

Clark Tells of Difficulties

2-16-47

"There is a tendency in this country for that situation to develop again, unless we do something tangible to prevent it," he said. During his 1944 campaign for the Vice-Presidency, President Truman related, he had fought the Ku Klux Klan in his home state and helped defeat it.

The Civil Rights Committee, headed by Charles E. Wilson, president of the General Electric Company, heard the President's appeal for new weapons to fight intolerance after Attorney General Tom Clark told them of his difficulties in the enforcement of civil rights.

The President, asserting he wanted the "Bill of Rights implemented in fact," said this country was not making progress fast enough in that direction.

The work, he said, "has got to start at the grass roots, and in starting at the grass roots, it has got to start in the hearts of the people themselves."

Lynchings Led to Action.

He reminded the group that they may get "more brickbats than bouquets," but said their willingness to undertake the job "shows that your hearts are in the right place."

The committee was created by President Truman shortly after the lynching of two Negroes and their wives in Georgia. He asked the group to make recommendations for expanding federal laws dealing with the enforcement of civil rights.

Call on Gov't to End Bias

By LEM GRAVES Jr.

(Pittsburgh Courier Press Service)

WASHINGTON—"We will never get rid of the civil rights problem in relation to minorities in America until we abandon the pattern of segregation. . . The first step which should be taken is the elimination of segregation and discrimination in the Nation's Capital."

This strong statement, issued by Dr. Will Alexander, vice president of the Rosenwald Fund and familiar figure in national affairs in Washington, highlighted the two-day public hearings of the President's Committee on Civil Rights at the National Archives Building last Wednesday and Thursday.

Taking a firm stand on the matter of democracy in Washington, Dr. Alexander cited the experience of Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Fisk president-elect, who was called to Japan by General MacArthur to participate in the formation of policies in connection with the development of a democratic society their appeal with the Third Court of Civil Appeals. It was generally believed here that the Appeals Court would sustain the findings of Judge Archer, which would leave no alternative for Sweatt's counsel, except to carry it to the U. S. Supreme Court.

National significance was attached to the case, because it was considered a test of the entire segregation system practiced in the South, and Sweatt counsel argued that the separation of schools was in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The case for the State was handled by Attorney General Price M. Daniel and two of his assistants. Sweatt's counsel was headed by Thurgood S. Marshall of New York, W. J. Durham of Dallas and James M. Nabrit of Washington, D. C.

LAWYERS ARGUE

The State contended that it had made every effort to comply with the order issued by Judge Archer in April, 1946, when he ordered the State to provide a law school for Negroes which would be equal in all respects to that at the University of Texas.

Attorney General Daniel pointed out that more than three million dollars had been appropriated by the Legislature to erect buildings and equip a university for Negroes which would meet the requirements of Judge Archer's order.

For the purpose of satisfying this order, they claimed, the State had established "temporary" facilities here, pending the actual erec-

tion of the new university. A school was set up here, temporarily, they claimed, and library facilities and a faculty set-up were furnished which met the requirements of the American Bar Association and the American Association of Law Schools.

This "law school" had no applicants for admission, and the State charged the NAACP with having influenced Negroes to remain away from this interim school.

Cross-examined by Mr. Nabrit, Dean Charles McCormick, of the University of Texas Law School, admitted that the teaching staff at the interim school was less than the minimum required by the Association of American Law Schools, and the librarian of the law school admitted that the Negro school was inadequate to house the 10,000 books furnished for a library.

DR. REDFIELD TESTIFIES

Also on the witness stand were Dr. Robert Redfield, University of Chicago anthropologist; Dean Earl G. Harrison of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Dean Charles H. Thompson of the Howard University Graduate School, and several other outstanding educators.

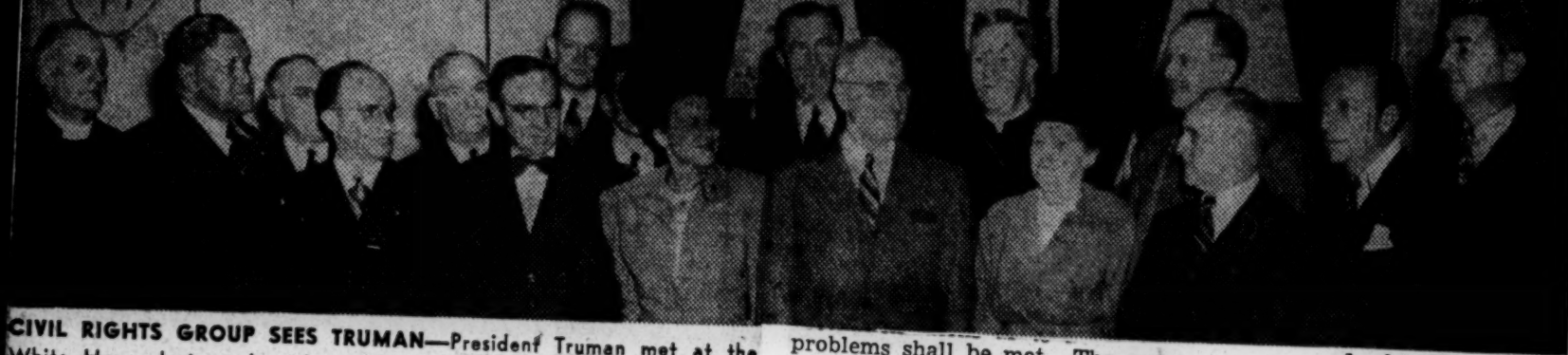
Sweatt, himself, testified that he has no intentions of attending a segregated law school, despite having made a deposition to the effect that he would do so, should one be set up which was equal to that at the University of Texas.

Judge Archer accepted the testimony, but admitted restricted to the limitations of the State Constitution, and that he would, therefore, have to deny he writ.

Dr. Channing Tobias and Attorney Sadie Alexander, members of the President's Civil Rights Commission, laid it on the line to the commission last week about their own housing accommodations while in Washington for meetings.

Chairman Wilson agreed and so in restricted, hidebound Washington the two Negro members of the commission stayed in the Statler there. It's a token advance but all to the good anyway.

11
Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier
Sat. 4-5-47



CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP SEES TRUMAN—President Truman met at the White House last week with members of his Civil Rights Committee. Front, left to right: the Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, Presiding Bishop of the U. S. Protestant Episcopal Church; Dr. Channing H. Tobias, New York; Rabbi Roland G. Gittelsohn, New York; Morris Ernst, New York; Mrs. Sadie Alexander, Philadelphia, Pa.; President Truman, Mrs. M. E. Tilley, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Fra-

Graham, University of North Carolina; Charles Luckman, Cambridge, Mass. Rear, left to right: Richard Potter, a guest not on the committee; John S. Dickey, Dartmouth College president; Francis P. Matthews, Omaha, Neb.; James B. Carey (observed), secretary-treasurer of the CIO; C. E. Wilson, General Electric president; Rep. Francis J. Haas, Bishop of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Boris Shiskin, Alexandria, Va., and Attorney General Tom Clark.

FBI Head, Civil Rights Unit Examine Existing Statutes

Sat. 4-5-47

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Members of the President's Committee on Civil Rights and J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, discussed the limitations of present civil rights statutes, in a closed conference at the White House last week.

The committee opened a two-day hearing on Wednesday morning to study difficulties under which the FBI operates in trying to solve cases of civil rights violations.

Ten of the 15 committee members present questioned the FBI head regarding areas in which new civil rights codes were needed. Sat. 4-5-47

Of the original civil rights codes, only two statutes remain in force. They are U.S. Statute Codes 51 and 52, both of which are deemed inadequate in prosecution.

Public Hearing Planned
The commission also treated with a session on circumstances surrounding some of the most recent atrocities, including the Walton County, Ga., lynching; the Lynchings, confessions and indictments in Pickens, S.C., and the Minden, La., lynching.

The committee plans a series of two-day meetings, to be held every fortnight, until June 30.

They hope to have their finished. Experts in various fields will be invited to testify at public hearings which will be held.

Both Mrs. Sadie Alexander of Philadelphia and Channing H. Tobias, New York, attended last week's session.

Woman To Assist
Chicago, Ill. (AP)
Director of Civil Rights Committee
3-1-47
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Miss Francis Williams, former executive assistant to the administrator of the Office of Price Administration, has been named assistant executive director of the President's Civil Rights Committee.

Miss Williams who has had a long and successful experience in various fields of public administration will serve as right arm to Executive Director Robert K. Carr, recently appointed to the top spot.

The committee will address itself to information-gathering in preparation for a conclusive report to be submitted to President Truman around June 1 on the problems existing in the field of civil rights, and will make extensive recommendations as to how these

problems shall be met. The committee will also be concerned with the legislative end of Civil Rights enforcement.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Defender
President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights has taken a step in the right direction in the appointment of Professor Robert K. Carr of Dartmouth College as executive secretary of the committee. Chicago, Ill. Sat. 3-22-47

Professor Carr has been interested in civil rights problems for quite some time. He has devoted considerable of his attention to the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice. He should be able to bring a great deal of clarity to the role and function of federal agencies in combating systematic transgressions of civil rights.

The committee is composed of a galaxy of eminent men whose recommendation should carry enough weight to accomplish the needed reforms.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE AND OUR ARMED FORCES

Chicago, Ill. Defender
If it is true that the President's Committee on Civil Rights has decided to probe discrimination in the armed forces of the United States, such an investigation should have a most salutary effect on the morale of the men who are still wearing Uncle Sam's uniform. Sat. 4-19-47

The probe, we understand, will be a part of the over-all investigation ordered by President Truman for determining the extent to which civil rights are being denied American citizens on the basis of race, color, creed, religion or racial origin. Of course, this is a test of the committee's willingness to sustain the promises upon which it was created and to reveal the facts, however ugly they might be. No

doubt the committee's finding will be the basis for stormy controversy in Congress, especially among Southern Representatives who are bitterly opposed to democratization of our armed forces.

While such a storm might rage in Congress, there will be little sustained public support for the preservation of a discriminatory pattern that tends to lessen the patriotic zest of our people and reduce their morale in time of national crisis. The committee need not be apprehensive as to Congressional reaction to its findings. It must be prepared to stand firm behind its recommendations, especially if the recommendations are the result of careful probing into the fact of discrimination and invasion of civil rights.

If it dodges its moral responsibilities in order to spare the feelings of those in authority, and if it produces a willy-nilly report of milk and water, it would invite a much greater storm of sustained criticism than a forthright recommendation would induce. Moreover, every single member of that committee would stand discredited before the eyes of intelligent citizens.

A GOOD BEGINNING

Chicago Defender, Chicago, Ill.
The first public hearings of the President's Civil Rights Committee brought out the possibility of a public disclosure of persons giving financial backing to anti-racial organizations.

It should not be difficult to bring to brook the distillers of the venom of race prejudice. For they operate brazenly by day and by night without any fear of public or official condemnation.

Testifying before the committee, the chief counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Thurgood Marshall said significantly that while much artificial hysteria has been whipped up over the

subversive activities of so-called left-ists, Congress has studiously avoided the clandestine operations of the extreme rightists whose subversion is a greater menace to the country.

With equal vigor and earnestness, Mr. Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP warned that one of the best ways of bringing on Communism in this country is the continued denial of human and civil rights to the Negro and other minorities. Sat. 5-3-47

He said the tolerance of the war step.

calling the Federal Reserve Banks the inner "bastions" of employment discrimination, but we discovered Thursday her Committee role and did a little members testifying. Obviously the Committee was fishing for opinions on what it's supposed to do if any-

Ho hum! Bishop Francis Haas, Bishop Henry Sherrill, Boris Shishkin and Marything. E. Tilly. Also Executive Secretary Frances Williams. Present to testify were Lester Granger and J. Harvey Kerns of Urban League, and Walter White and Thurgood Marshall of NAACP. Sat. 4-26-47

It was all pretty dull. What was said, everybody already knew. Once Lester Granger was awake by

But let us make sure that the laws that are passed have teeth in them and are not allowed to become a dead letter. Of course, passing appropriate legislation is a necessary first step. Next is its enforcement. That

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE REPORTS

Defender
Preliminary reports of the findings and recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights indicate that the committee members have met squarely the issues which disturb us. Cracking down on lynchers, abolishing the poll tax, guaranteeing fair employment practices and the freedom of the ballot are recommendations which should meet with the approval of all decent Americans.

The distinguished members of the President's Committee have not been influenced by propagandists nor the emotional appeals of aggrieved individuals. For six months they have made an intensive and exhaustive study of the naked facts of Negro-white relationships in America. Fortunately these facts were readily available and all the evidence of the wanton abuse of the civil rights of Negro Americans could be easily corroborated. The ugly truths of our oppressive plight are self-evident. *Chicago, Ill.*

The high character of the President's Committee, headed by Charles E. Wilson of the General Electric Company, and the scientific manner in which the committee approached its task should convince the most skeptical white American of the soundness of its recommendations. The fact that the findings of the committee differ not at all from the arguments of our leadership merely proves our leaders have stood all along on firm ground.

To propose a blow for freedom and to strike such a blow, however, are two different things. The committee has proposed in its report to the President a mighty blow for freedom. They have done their job admirably. Their honest labor will go for nothing, however, unless it is followed by direct action on the part of the President and the United States Congress. We are determined that there shall be no rest for those who may seek to evade the proposals of this committee or pass the buck in the fight for their adoption.

We are on the eve of a great nation-

al election. In 1948 the Negro vote will be the heaviest in our history and no aspirant to the Presidency can expect to win without it. The fair and reasonable recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights represent a platform for the adoption of which we must and shall wage a total fight. In advancing our civil liberties we are safeguarding the cornerstone of our democracy which guarantees freedom for black and white alike.

Civil Rights In The South

Journal and Guide
GEORGIA, South Carolina and North Carolina have demonstrated in recent months that their Negro citizens may expect no protection of their civil rights at the hands of grand juries and trial juries, where the opposite parties in the case are white persons. Despite the established legal discriminations imposed upon minority groups in all of the southern states, there are certain civil rights which it seems barbarious to take away from any citizen regardless of race, color or creed. Among these rights are those which are supposed to be thrown around every citizen by the machinery of the courts. When a person in an American state loses that protection he is indeed exposed to the hazard of losing his life or property at the hands of any person or persons who may see fit to take them. *Sat. 9. 2-47*

Within recent months there has been an accumulation of protests against the stark situation which confronts the Negro group in the South and in the aforementioned states particularly, on the part of the press and some state officials, including some members of the judiciary. This is good but it does not scratch the surface of the problem because these people are a minority, and at the mercy, politically speaking, of the people who have determined that the Constitution and the laws have no disciplinary meaning for them where a Negro is concerned. *Nonfalk & Co.*

Some months ago President TRUMAN named, what is called the President's Committee on Civil Rights. That committee has been holding some hearings in Washington and there appeared before it recently Dr. GUY B. JOHNSON, former executive director of the Southern Regional Council. Prefacing a statement which is too lengthy for pub-

lication here, Dr. JOHNSON told the committee that he conceived of the "ultimate strategic recommendations of this committee as being directed toward the following processes":

1. Strengthening federal legislation, and perhaps the constitution, so that the federal government may deal more effectively with violations of civil rights.
2. Clarifying certain existing constitutional and statutory provisions through Congressional action and test cases in the courts so that these provisions may become better instruments for safeguarding civil rights.
3. Formulating certain desirable standards of legislation, judicial procedure, police conduct, etc. for the state and local levels, which can be laid on the conscience of state and local government by association of all sorts of private agencies interested in civil rights.

It appears that most of the responsible government officials, members of the press and business leaders of the South, who have expressed themselves on the recent orgy of law defiance, are agreed in their thinking that the only remedy for the situation is education. They speak of time and education, as eradicating some of the present evils. Nobody speaks of Christianity as having any effect upon it, and except as Christianity may characterize some forms of education, there does not appear to be any hope in that direction. The leaders of the Church are sometimes the most prominent men on these juries and grand juries that turn confessed law violators loose. That is not an indictment of the church per se, it is merely a statement of experience. Anyone who has served on a southern grand jury knows that they are usually made up of the best citizens in the community and these hold the highest places in the church.

Dr. JOHNSON, who is a mature student of southern conditions, a southerner himself, born in Texas and for a long time an instructor at the University of North Carolina, has made a more practical approach. He has pointed in the direction in which both the federal and state governments may go in getting a grip on this problem in accordance with the constitution and the statutory laws of both the federal and state governments. That course has never been tried. It is worth trying.

NAACP Thanks President For Report

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Jan. 11-2-47
Counsel Declares
Sun. 11-2-47
Release Basis

For Action Now

NEW YORK — Expressing "profound admiration" for the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, calling it "beyond question the most forthright governmental pronouncement" on civil rights ever drafted, Walter White, NAACP secretary, sent the following telegram to President Truman:

"May I on behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People express to you our profound admiration for the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. It is believed all question the most forthright governmental pronouncement of a practical program for assurance of civil rights not only to minorities but to all Americans which has yet been drafted. The Committee has charted a course for the executive and legislative branches of government, both national and state, and for the people which if followed will make real our principles of human freedom." *Daily World*

Pledging "fullest support" of the recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights Thurgood Marshall chief counsel for the N. A. A. C. P., called for all groups interested in first class citizenship for all Americans to redouble their efforts to bring the Committee's proposals into reality.

Marshall said the NAACP was "naturally gratified" by the report of the committee—the suggestion

that such a committee be appointed down in history as one of the most is an official report by a constitutional commission with all of the authority of such a commission, its effectiveness can be fully realized. **KNOWN TO MINORITY** "The carefully documented materials of the conditions in the country today are not new to minority groups and indeed they have been made known to many Americans. When it is fully realized that this

The Civil Rights Report

Perhaps the first thing that should be said about the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, made public last week, is that all Americans should strive to give it the earnest, calm consideration it clearly deserves; that no one should permit himself to get overexcited about it, thus making more difficult the extremely complex problems in this area of our national life.

Indeed, there is no adequate reason for getting excited at all about the report. It is the work of 15 responsible, respected American citizens, appointed last December. They gave almost a year of careful consideration to this important task.

When they say that our progress in civil rights calls for reexamination, that it needs new impetus, that we have not fully achieved realization of basic American ideals and objectives in this field, surely there will be widespread agreement throughout the country.

That there are differences among us—honest differences—as to how best to make progress in this direction is not new, or cause for undue disturbance.

There is always, in human life, a contrast between high and difficult goals and the troubled advance toward them. It is one thing to have a lofty aim—and to hold to it resolutely. It is another thing to achieve that end. The conditions of achievement often are so formidable and complicated that many questions inevitably arise as to the best procedure, even when there is broad agreement as to the objective. That is outstandingly so in dealing with civil rights and minority problems.

Americans are in strong majority agreement in wanting to do the right thing, in wanting to make the greatest possible progress in this field. They have wide differences of opinion as to how best to move ahead. This will be conspicuously exemplified in the reactions to this report of the president's committee.

Here in the South, particularly, there will be deep disagreement as to the feasibility of some of the major steps proposed by the committee.

But that unmistakable reality should not obscure the fact that there are many things in the report which will not be widely challenged anywhere in this country. Let us all take care not to reduce the unity and accord that prevails among us. Overconcentration on differences, incitement of feelings, can only make things harder for everybody.

The committee itself obviously worked

under a strong sense of duty. Its convictions as to necessary action, its desire not to fall into complacency or futility, moved it to a fervor giving its report something of a crusading tone. One can understand that spirit, in view of the gravity of the problem and the depth of conviction of committee members. Nevertheless, such a tone, as distinguished from a more restrained treatment, will tend to lessen the objective consideration given by some citizens who disagree with important recommendations.

A comprehensive review of the report cannot now be given here. From time to time *The News* and *The Age-Herald* expect to return to discussion of it. But some of the major points may be briefly commented on now.

The public opinion of America, the good sense of our people, we believe, will uphold the basic declaration that strong moral, economic and international reasons, having to do with our conscience, our self-interest and our survival in a threatening world, call for renewed action—"a broad and immediate program"—to diminish "the pervasive gap between our aims and what we actually do..."

The committee recommends strengthening of machinery for protection of civil rights, the establishment of effective programs for this purpose in the states. There is great value in these recommendations. They will have wide popular support.

New legislation to increase "the safety and security of the person" is urged. Among the specific proposals is a federal anti-lynching act. This paper continues to believe such a step would retard, rather than expedite, the progress being made against this unspeakable evil. Other recommendations in this section are impressive and should receive very careful consideration.

It is to be noted that the committee is careful to say that it prefers voluntary state action to eliminate poll taxes where they now prevail. Only if the states fail to take such action is congressional or constitutional amendment favored. These papers long have favored poll tax reform by state action. We continue to doubt the wisdom of federal action. But we agree that reform is urgently needed; that it should come promptly.

Other recommendations having to do with the rights of citizenship are convincing, but some, having to do with segregation in the armed forces, raise doubt and call for the most careful procedure.

We approve heartily the recommendations for federal and state legislation to require registration and adequate identification of

propaganda groups and for action by Congress to clarify the loyalty obligations of federal employees and to safeguard their civil rights.

It is in its sweeping, urgent proposals respecting segregation practices that the deepest doubts and the most outright opposition will be raised in the South. Here, particularly, there is great difference between theory and application, between purpose and fulfillment.

This paper shares the widespread Southern conviction that it would be a tragic mistake to press for complete and immediate elimination of segregation, irrespective of local problems. It is to be observed that there are only two members of this committee from the South. Members from other sections cannot fully realize the delicacy and difficulty of this problem in this region. Premature compulsion could bring great tragedy.

Progress in this direction must move along with reasonable regard for public opinion in communities and regions which vary widely in makeup, in traditions, in problems and in viewpoints. Injustice and prejudice cannot be reduced merely by fiat. Indeed, pressing too far ahead of public opinion could greatly increase prejudice, bitterness, misunderstanding, and retard the very progress sought.

Certainly, in our view, the proposal to condition all federal grants-in-aid and other forms of federal assistance to public or private agencies on the absence of segregation would be a profound mistake.

A minority of the committee, it should be realized, "favors the elimination of segregation as an ultimate goal, but opposes the imposition of a federal sanction." This minority, of course, opposes, as is obviously proper, discrimination in the distribution of federal funds.

These papers continue to believe that a federal fair employment practice act, while unassailable in purpose, would make more complicated and slower genuine progress in this cause, particularly in the South. We believe the wartime efforts of the government looking to the utmost utilization of manpower were justified and had some good results. But peacetime progress against employment discrimination should take the utmost care to avoid unwisdoms and interventions. Yet human conscience and American principle call for the most devoted and persistent efforts to eliminate unfair discrimination.

The recommendation that Legislatures enact laws for public and private educational institutions prohibiting discrimination on

the basis of race, color, creed or national origin in the admission and treatment of students is, we believe, certain to fail of any positive response in many states. Here in the South it will be overwhelmingly rejected. Compulsion in this instance, too, would be premature.

It is true that equal though separate facilities are not provided in many instances. This is the feasible present objective, which should be unremittingly sought.

There was "a substantial division" within the committee on the recommendation of the majority. That is not surprising. It is not a sound recommendation.

While disagreeing with important recommendations of this committee, we not only approve strongly many of its proposals but admire the unquestionable courage and devotion with which it has carried out its tremendously important assignment. It has performed a notable service. Let all Americans make a maximum effort to achieve the greatest possible benefit from this work.

Let no American be complacent or self-righteous. These problems are of illimitable importance. They are very urgent.

We recognize the right of all Americans to speak their convictions freely. We are grateful for courage thus shown. Such discussion, when responsible and well disciplined, can make for genuine advance.

The greatest progress in the application and practice of high principle, however, can come only when wise methods and means are used. These papers long have believed—and believe the more so as experience accumulates—that progress in this cause will be most effectively and rapidly forwarded by concentration on those specific advances that are feasible; by never failing to realize the urgency of unremitting effort of this kind, by never becoming discouraged, apathetic or complacent and by avoiding premature and excessive steps that not only hold little or no promise of gain but instead could deepen trouble and tragedy.

Negro Faces Humiliation Group Reports

Washington, Oct. 29 (AP)—When

it comes to discriminating against Negroes, President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights asserted today, the nation's capital itself "is a graphic illustration of a failure of democracy."

Washington for Negroes, the committee declared in its report to the President, "is not just the na-

Situation Intolerable.
The report said the committee "feels most deeply" that the situation in the capital "is intolerable." **James H. Murray** A chart accompanying the report showed that 40 per cent of Negro-occupied dwellings are "substandard" against only 12 per

cent of white-occupied dwellings. The report said the committee "feels most deeply" that the situation in the capital "is intolerable." **James H. Murray** A chart accompanying the report showed that 40 per cent of Negro-occupied dwellings are "substandard" against only 12 per

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cent of white-occupied dwellings. The report said the committee "feels most deeply" that the situation in the capital "is intolerable." **James H. Murray** A chart accompanying the report showed that 40 per cent of Negro-occupied dwellings are "substandard" against only 12 per

cent of white-occupied dwellings in this category. It also showed capacity in schools for white children exceeds enrollment by 27 per cent while in schools for Negroes enrollment exceeds capacity by 8 per cent.

"The origin of the pattern of discrimination in Washington," the committee said, "is partly explained by its location in a border area where many Southern customs prevail.

"Certain political and local pressure groups, and the administrative decisions of municipal officials contribute to its persistence."

"Except where the Federal Government has made a few independent advances, as in federal employment and the use of federal recreational facilities, racial segregation is rigid.

"It extends to ludicrous extremes."

"Inconsistencies are evident: Constitution Hall, owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution, seats concert audiences without distinctions of color, but allows no Negroes on its stage to give regular commercial concerts. On the other hand, the commercial legitimate theater has had Negro actors on its stage, but stubbornly refuses to admit Negro patrons."

Urges Suffrage.

Capital treatment of Negroes, the committee said, "not only humiliates colored citizens, but is a source of considerable embarrassment" to the "many dark-skinned foreign visitors." The report explained:

"Foreign officials are often mistaken for American Negroes and refused food, lodging, and entertainment. However, once it is established that they are not Americans, they are accommodated."

The committee said Congress should establish self-government for the District of Columbia and that the Constitution should be amended to give district residents suffrage in presidential elections and representation in Congress.

Mississippi Official Is Against Proposal To Segregate Races

JACKSON, Miss., Oct. 31—(AP)—Acting Gov. Oscar Wolfe, of Mississippi has called on "all decent white people" to oppose a recommendation by a presidential committee that racial segregation be abolished.

The South itself stands for segregation, the acting governor said in a statement yesterday, and will continue to practice it regardless of the committee's judgment.

"All forms of human relationships and contacts cannot be regulated by law," said the statement, issued in response to a newsman's request for comment on the committee, which was appointed by President Truman and which proposed that racial segregation be extricated at once from the United States.

"History shows that where any nation has not practiced segregation of races, the custom has always resulted in the destruction of the nation that permitted this crime against nature.

"We of the South know this and ask the aid of all decent white people of this country to help stem this concerted effort on the part of misguided people to foster a scheme advocated by outside interference and meddlers to destroy this nation."

The presidential committee also urged enactment of federal anti-lynching, anti-poll tax, and fair employment practice laws. It recommended that racial discrimination be outlawed in such places as trains, buses, schools, hospitals, theaters, hotels and restaurants.

The Committee, headed by Pres. Charles E. Wilson, of the General Electric Company, urged enactment of Federal anti-lynching, anti-poll tax and fair employment practice laws. It also called for Federal and State laws to prevent racial or religious segregation in such places as trains, buses, schools, theaters, hotels and restaurants.

The Committee also spoke out against "public excitement" on the Communist question, but declared that real Communists and Fascists should be exposed.

Deeds, Not Words

THE document on civil liberties, which has just been handed to President Truman by his appointees, shows the following important things:

- That the criticism which has been made for years of the hideous Jimcrow system by the Negro people, by the Communists, by all decent progressives who believe in our Constitution is wholly true. The horrible truth about the oppression of an entire people, numbering 14 million Negro Americans, cannot any longer be crushed by sneers at "radicals," by the persecution of so-called "subversive influences."

The American people know the truth. The world knows it just as well. The democratic pretensions of the Truman-Marshall doctrine rouse the scornful laughter of other nations.

- The Truman administration has its eye on the '48 elections, and is now getting ready to promise much to the Negro people but, as usual, will do little or nothing.
- The Truman administration is looking for a "liberal" front with which to sugar-coat a new assault on the civil liberties of the labor movement, of progressives and of the Communist Party.

THE civil liberties report was written by people of different views, and with different motives.

The reiteration of the demands for an FEPC, an anti-lynch law, an anti-polltax law comes from those in the President's committee who sincerely mirror the views of the Negro people and the democratic forces in the nation.

These demands are now new; they have been made year after year by all progressives, including the Communist Party, which has been persecuted, slandered and hounded for vigorously urging them.

The Democratic-GOP coalition has given ample proof that it is an illusion to depend on it ever to get such legislation.

Neither Truman nor the Hoover mob in Congress have ever lifted a finger to get these urgently needed laws. They won't voluntarily do anything now. They will

move only under the pressure of an aroused and united progressive movement in the U.S.A.

While the document reflects the alarm of decent Americans over the anti-Communist hysteria now riding high in Washington, it is a significant fact that it does not demand the abolition of the Truman "loyalty oath," nor the abolition of the infamous House Un-American Committee, nor the repeal of the vicious Taft-Hartley law with its police state "thought control" provisions.

On the contrary, the document makes the astounding proposal that the defense of America's civil liberties shall be entrusted to the tender mercies of J. Edgar Hoover's political police. Hoover is American labor's arch-enemy. He has publicly declared his hatred of all liberals, progressives, however mild.

And it adds to this proposition another—that the "conspiracy" laws shall be amended to make an individual liable to "conspiracy" charges as well as a group of two or more persons. Such a provision would make every single American liable to a gestapo-like political terrorism never before seen in this country.

Not a single trade union member would be safe from it. And since to men like Rep Rankin any opposition to

IT IS DEEDS that the Negro people and the entire country want to see now in defense of civil liberty, and not the hollow and oft-broken promises of the two corporation-controlled parties. It is by deeds that Truman will be judged in this fight.

In the coming special session, every progressive American should demand that the anti-Jimcrow, anti-discrimination proposals of the government's committee be immediately enacted into law.

Regardless of political differences, let every group which sincerely wants an anti-lynch law, an anti-polltax law unite with others of the same mind.

Deeds will tell the full story. The struggle is on to force the passage of these demands to wipe out Jimcrow in our land.

Atlanta Woman Is Member Of Group on Civil Rights

Mrs. M. E. Tilly, of Atlanta, a member of the Haygood Methodist Church and the Woman's Society of Christian Service, is one of 15 members of a committee appointed by President Truman which proposed Wednesday that racial discrimination be wiped out of American life "now."

The Committee was named by Truman last December to study at length, but also scored other means by which present laws and Federal agencies might be "strengthened and improved to safeguard the civil rights of the people."

In a comprehensive report issued in Washington, D. C., the

Committee criticized discrimination against Negroes in the South at length, but also scored other regions in the North and West for violations of civil rights. The nation's capital itself was termed "a graphic illustration of a failure of democracy" and the gateway to "Jim Crow" transportation in the South.

Negro woman, man on Truman committee

WASHINGTON—Two Negroes were members of President Truman's 15-man civil rights committee, whose report stirred the nation last week. *Sat. 11-8-47*

Mrs. Sadie T. Alexander, of Philadelphia, was one of the two women on the body. Second Negro was Channing Tobias, of New York, director of the Phelps-Stokes Fund.

Mrs. Alexander is an assistant city solicitor of Philadelphia. The other woman, white, was Mrs. M. E. Tilly, of Atlanta, Ga. The committee also included Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.

Public Demand!

**26,000 Copies
Of Charter Out**

Pittsburgh Pa.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Mrs. Sadie Alexander, assistant city solicitor for the city of Philadelphia, Pa., and a member of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights, told The Courier here this week that 26,000 copies of the committee's report had been disposed of since the official release of the report. *Sat. 11-15-47*

Mrs. Alexander was here as an official delegate to the inaugural of Dr. Charles Johnson as president of Fisk University.

erty. *11-8-47*
"But it is not enough to say that lynchings have dwindled to a few each year, that only six States still retain the poll tax, that many inequalities in the administration of justice have been corrected and that police brutalities have lessened.

"Freedom and equality will not be secure for any of us until they are secure for all of us."

11-8-47
And Max Lerner of PM: The report has political dynamite in it. If President Truman and his administration accept it, they can use it as the Democratic answer to the Republican philosophy of fear and repression now being placed on the record by the Thomas committee. This can mean that the common people of America—Negro and white alike, minorities and majority alike—will once more feel that the difference between parties is a real difference, and one worth voting for."

Committee Wants Status Widened

Truman Receives Strong Charter of Civil Rights

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK
(Exclusive to The Pittsburgh Courier)

WASHINGTON—A new charter for enlargement of the human rights of every American, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin will be presented to President Truman in the White House this week by the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

Immediately following, the committee will hold a press conference when the 75,000-word report will be made public.

It follows by only a few days an appeal to the United Nations by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for assistance to colored Americans in their struggle for equality in the U. S.

ANSWERS CHALLENGE

The report is expected to be one answer to the challenge voiced at the dedication of the Freedom Train in Philadelphia by Attorney General Tom C. Clark, who declared:

"All over the world, now, people are watching us Americans. They are watching to see whether we really practice the fine things we say about freedom and democracy. They want to know whether we practice what we preach."

The committee of fifteen, representing management, labor, re-

study this report with great care, and I recommend to all my countrymen that they do the same thing.

"I created this committee with a feeling of urgency. No sooner were we finished with the war than racial and religious intolerance began to appear and threaten the very things we had just fought for."

"In times past, when our American freedoms were threatened, groups of our citizens banded together and set out on paper the principles they felt would preserve freedom and the kinds of action that would defend freedom."

Historic Document Cited

"The Declaration of Independence was that kind of document, and I notice that the title of this report (To Secure These Rights) is taken from the Declaration of Independence."

"I hope this committee has given us as broad a document as that—an American charter of human freedom in our time."

"The need for such a charter was never greater than at this moment. Men of good will everywhere are striving, under great difficulties, to create a world-wide moral order, firmly established in the life of nations."

charter of human freedom will be a guide for our action; and in the eyes of the world, it will be a declaration of our renewed faith in the American goal—the integrity of the individual human being, sustained by the moral consensus of the whole nation."

tion, protected by a Government based on equal freedom under just laws.

"The members of this committee are busy men and women. We all owe them a debt of gratitude. I feel I am speaking for all Americans when I thank them for their unselfish, devoted service."

OPINION REVIEW

PRESS... COLUMNISTS... MAGAZINES

CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT

THE EDITOR of The New York TIMES, as will many others, entered his typewriter in the lists of those who will "opinionate" on the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. *Sat. 11-8-47*

He does not believe the Committee has adduced anything new, either in the form of tradition or principle, but is pleased that certain principles, first enunciated by Jefferson have been reaffirmed.

A pertinent and vital observation is that the Committee has made "bold recommendations, not all of which will get through Congress as long as the filibuster is permitted in the Senate."

"In the case of the poll tax," he continues; "probably in the case of any attempt to pass a national Fair Employment Practices Act, the 'right' to filibuster may prevail over equality before the law and equality of opportunity."

The editor then soberly adds: "We may even question whether equal rights—equality in employment; equality in education, including private, tax-exempt educational facilities; equality in health and medical services; equality in public accommodations where segregation is enforced—can be made real by any law in some communities."

THE EDITOR of The Pittsburgh POST-GAZETTE is led to contrast certain portions of the report of the President's Committee with statements and in-

nuendoes which were emanating from the House Committee on un-American Activities. Writes the editor:

"In contrast to this miasma of idiotic charges, the report of President Truman's Committee on civil rights comes as a refreshing breeze of Americanism and plain common sense."

"The committee rightfully criticized 'irresponsible opportunists who make it a practice to attack every person or group with whom they disagree as 'Communist.'"

"When four essential rights listed by the committee become an actuality in this country there will be far less cause to worry about communism and fascism. These evils flourish best in an atmosphere of hatred and discontent likely to exist when individuals and minority groups are subjected to such un-American practices as discrimination in citizenship, lack of freedom of conscience and expression, inequality of opportunity and inadequate safety and security of the person."

ACCORDING TO THE editor of The Pittsburgh PRESS:

"Certainly it is true that what the report terms great progress has been made. Nowhere else in the world have so many people, of so many races, creeds and national origins, been brought together in so brief a period as in our American melting pot. And nowhere else have so many ever enjoyed the blessings of lib-

President Says Support Vital

Calls Group's Study
'Charter of Freedom'
REQUESTS ACTION
Says Eyes of World

Scrutinize America
WASHINGTON (NNPA)

President Truman declared on Wednesday that he hoped the report of the President's

AFRO to Publish Entire Report

Beginning next week, the AFRO will begin the publication serially of the full report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. Don't miss a single installment of this important document. Reserve your AFRO now!

Mr. Truman had directed it to make such a study and report. Upon the rendition of the report on Wednesday, the committee ceased to exist.

President's Statement After receiving the report, the President issued the following statement:

"The President's Civil Rights Committee has just submitted its report. I am going to read and

Civil Rights Committee would be "an American charter of human freedom in our time."

The committee called at the White House and submitted to him its 178-page report covering its studies of violations of civil methods which may be adopted to strengthen and safeguard those rights.

In his executive order of Dec. 5, creating the committee,

Dec. 5, creating the committee,

From The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot

The result of the Committee's eleventh-month study is now on view in a 178-page report, entitled "To Secure These Rights" (a phrase taken from the Declaration of Independence) and obtainable from the Government Printing Office for \$1. President Truman, on receiving the report, said he is going to read and study it "with great care" and adjured his countrymen to "do the same thing." It is a document that belongs in the permanent collection of every thoughtful American concerned over what the Committee calls "the pervasive gap between our aims and what we actually do"—a discrepancy which, to quote the Committee again, "is creating a kind of moral dry rot which eats away at the emotional and rational bases of democratic beliefs."

It is no easier to take exception to the manifesto's central thesis—that the privileges, sanctions, protections and opportunities of American citizenship should be extended to all members of the American family without prejudice or limitation, on the ground of race, creed or color—than it is take exception to the essential professions of the Declaration of Independence, of the Bill of Rights and, indeed, of the religious doctrine which order our paths to salvation. All that we can do is to enter a kind of plea in extenuation—that human beings and their social institutions always have been, still are, and are likely to remain imperfect; that men and women living in the contemporary social and economic frame are to a large extent prisoners of their blood and of their social past; and that though, considered in terms of pure democracy, our practices—especially in the South—fall far short of our copybook and prayer-book professions, we have yet managed in the United States as far and as free a life for its people as exists anywhere on

This necessary emphasis upon our country's failures should not be permitted to obscure the real measure of its success. No fair-minded student of American history, or of world history, would deny to the United States a position of leadership in enlarging the range of human liberties and rights, in recognizing and stating the ideals of freedom and equality, and in steady and loyal working to make these ideals a reality. Whatever our failures in practice have been or may be, there has never been a time when the American validity of those ideals. We people have doubted the still regard them as vital to our democratic system.

To make ours a "more per- reconciled with the preservation
fect union," the Committee of social peace in many sections
recommends action "now"—a of our country—the report and
"sustained drive ahead"—on the recommendations of the Civil
legislative level, to deal with Rights Committee are to be wel-
such national and regional sores come as a searching and useful
as lynching, abridgement of po- contribution to our democratic
litical rights on the ground of therapy.
race, employment and economic
discriminations similarly moti-
vated, and segregation as a law-
backed device for denying to
particular racial and religious
minorities the full benefits of
public and private services the
unrestricted enjoyment of which
is now open only to the ruling
majority.

It would be ignoring the facts of life to pretend that any system of new federal enactments would, without public assent produce anywhere in the United States the classes, frictionless and discrimination-free democratic society toward which the Civil Rights Committee beckons us as a goal. It would be false

But when this is said, it must be immediately added that many gross discriminations—civic, economic and political—that abridge the rights and liberties of our American minorities, especially our large Negro minority, need to be wiped out, should be wiped out by Federal legislation if relief is withheld by the States, and that this process of rectification has a long way to go before it can impinge on the raw inner-nerve of social separateness which will not bear touching save under the opiate of uncoerced approval voted by the peoples of the separate sovereign States.

These limitations noted—not because they can easily be reconciled with our basic democratic professions, but because the ignoring of them cannot be reconciled with the preservation of social peace in many sections of our country—the report and recommendations of the Civil Rights Committee are to be welcomed as a searching and useful contribution to our democratic therapy.

The Commission on Civil Rights appointed by President Truman has not come up with any world-shaking discovery when it finds race prejudice rife in this country. It has not said anything astounding when it contends that

As a smoke screen to hide the Democratic record of indifference toward the colored brother's hopes and aspirations, the commission's report will enthuse only the most gullible of Mr. Truman's supporters. It doesn't take much ability, and certainly not as much time as the commission used to formulate the kind of report it has given to President Truman. It is something that any good retorician could have dashed off in a day or two of writing. All of the facts on which the commission based its report were known to most people of average intelligence.

It is a fact, also, that President Truman, as have all other presidents, has known that a strict enforcement of the Constitution, and especially the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution by the men sworn to enforce it, long ago would have ended much of the violation of civil rights now prevalent in this country. *Ex 11-7-47*

It is ridiculous to be appointing commissions, and letting them consume big sums of tax money making investigations when the number of things they would have to be investigating could be reduced to a minimum if the famed Mr. J. Edgar Hoover and his sleuths would round up and bring in the violaters of the law. How come Mr. Hoover hasn't rounded up and brought in the lynchers of the two men and two women who were done to death in Georgia many months ago? *Fri. 11-7-47*

The commissions would have shown its members to be realists had it confined its labors to investigating Attorney General Clark and G-Man Hoover. Afraid Mr. Truman would not have endorsed their findings, maybe.

Truman Calls Civil Rights Report
By M. Paul Good, N. Y.
 'Good', May Quote It to Congress

WASHINGTON

Some of the recommendations a stray man to knock down that he would.

ing up what he called fragmen-President to say they could be
tary bits of information to buildused without saying definitely

by President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights may get into this State of the Union message passed recently by the American Society of Newspaper Editors to Congress in January. The resolution was directed against proposed security regulations of "real" Communists and Fascists, including a ban on Government employees and repeal of State poll taxes. Associated Press reported that the recommendations "embarrass" the Administration. At another point in the January message, while the proposed rules were modified after the protest, Truman criticized the bad habit of pick-

Respect For Human Rights

Black Dispatch

Hypocrisy and sham must dive for a hiding place these days with the President's Committee on Civil Rights submitting a report to the chief executive demanding the end of jim crow and discrimination in the United States, and NAACP officials appearing before the United Nations detailing a story of race hate, and documenting unassailable facts revealing the shameful record of this nation.

Permitting this report to be presented on the eve of the oncoming campaign for election shows a courageousness on the part of President Truman we had begun to feel did not exist, and it unquestionably places him in a more kindly light before minority groups than candidate Thomas Dewey of New York, who four years ago was unwilling to allow his civil rights committee to report until after the election. It will be recalled that Channing Tobias and several others of that committee resigned when Governor Dewey side-stepped the report until after the election. *Oklahoma, Okla.*

The Truman and the NAACP statement should have great weight during coming months both in national and international assemblies. Both documents are admissions of the absence of civil rights in the United States. Both statements arise to mock the pretensions of former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, who during his tenure of office sought to tell the people of Western Europe how to hold democratic elections. At the very moment Byrnes sought to lay down the Golden Rule of democracy in foreign lands, not a black citizen in South Carolina could vote in the Democratic primary. *11-6-47. Sat.*

Russians for some time have been criticizing America because of rampant race discrimination extant in this country. Only a short time ago Ilya Ehrenburg, a distinguished Soviet writer, talked about the spiritual possibilities he observed in America, but said Ehrenburg, "Bilboism certainly impairs America's title to be regarded as the champion among mankind of human rights." America has made great progress in the sciences and arts, but if our industry and thrift have been utilized to cause men to hate rather than love one another, justification for human existence has been blotted out. *Sat. Oklahoma, Oklahoma.*

The Black Dispatch takes no stock with those publications in this country assuming that the NAACP has done the nation an injustice to bring to the attention of the United Nations the iniquity that rests on the door-sills of American institutions. Exposure of these truths should have a sobering effect upon the dissemblers, whose marble-hearted consciences permit them to seek moral leadership of the world in an hour when dark people in Asia, Africa and other remote sections of the earth are seeking freedom. *Sat. 11-6-47*

Every minority group in this nation should hope and long for the time when the American constitution will contain the same genuine and understandable pronouncement on the question of the rights of minorities as the Russian constitution. Russians believe in racial equality and have imbedded this principle in their fundamental charter.

Here is what the Russian constitution says in connection with races:

"Equality of rights of citizens of the U. S. S. R., irrespective of their nationality or race, in all spheres of economic state, cultural, social and political life, is an indefeasible law.

"Any direct or indirect restriction of the rights of, or, conversely,

any establishment of direct or indirect privileges for, citizens on account of their race or nationality, as well as an advocacy of racial or national exclusiveness or hatred or contempt is punishable by law."

Writer Ehrenburg was doubtless thinking of the Russian constitution when he struck at "Bilboism," because every Russian knows severe punishment is meted out to anyone in his country who openly advocates "racial or national exclusiveness, or hatred or contempt" for any Russian citizen.

All prejudice is imbedded in materialism. In fact, our observation is that the roots of hate are economic. Thomas Jefferson, when he read the first draft of the constitution said "What about the rights of the people?" which was open admission that the men who wrote America's fundamental charter were more interested in property rights than in human rights. Jefferson then proceeded to write the first ten amendments to the constitution, which if today deleted from that instrument would convert this republic into a nightmare and horror for minority groups. *Black Dispatch*

What we need in our constitution is positive language that deals with spiritual values. There are people in this nation who would die the death of dogs before they would say to Negroes: "You may have 'social freedom.'" When a man frees his soul from the narrow grippings of materialism he can do this. It means he has respect for all human values whether it be clothed in a red, yellow, black or white skin. Recently a speaker who came to Oklahoma City, in addressing an important group down town, announced that property values should be elevated in importance above human estimates. The segregationist shouts "That man destroys the values to my property!" Such a man cares nothing about his own personal selfishness or the destruction his vicious acquisitive desires bring to the emotional life of the individual he attacks. We need to write into the American constitution the genuine values of human respect of which Thomas Jefferson dreamed. The Truman Committee on Civil Rights seems to be making this approach also in offering a new pattern for American life.

With such a law in this country Negroes would not need an NAACP pressing for an anti-lynching bill, an FEPC, and the right to vote. It was with this thought in mind we pressed for a resolution in the Chicago convention of the NAACP several years ago, which would, and did demand the outlawing of racial discrimination in this country. We know precisely what the nation needs to halt the mob, the Rankins, and the segregationists even though we may never secure it.

The 178-page report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights and the 155-page petition of the NAACP asking the UN for redress of grievances, both in effect say the same thing, so that those weasel-mouthed journalists who leaped to the fore announcing the NAACP document was treasonable and subversive, will have to bring the same charge against the President's Committee. To our notion there is very little difference between the objective of two fellows, one who argues we should have certain rights, and another pointing out the absence of the same and identical rights referred to by the first party. *Oklahoma, Oklahoma.*

The President's Committee demands the abolition of separate waiting rooms and cars, separate schools, racial restrictive covenants, labor discrimination. It runs the full gamut of undemocratic practices in this country and suggests remedies. The DuBois report of the NAACP simply documents the fact that the above constitutional guarantees are

TOBIAS RIPS SOUTHERN BODY'S STAND ON CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT

NEW YORK--Dr. Channing H. Tobias scored the Southern Regional Council this week for its attack on the President's Civil Rights Committee report.

Sat. 12-27-47

"We are surprised and disappointed," said Tobias, a member of the Committee, "that an organization existing for the purpose of helping in adjustment of race relationships in the South would play into the hands of reactionaries of the South who from the beginning have condemned the report of the Committee."

Meeting in Atlanta recently, the Southern Regional Council directors declared that Fed-

denied Negroes. *Sat. 11-6-47*
What is wrong with telling the truth? DuBois in his statement presented to the United Nations, says:

"Not very long ago the nephew of the ruler of a neighboring American state was killed by a policeman in Florida because he was mistaken for a Negro and thought to be demanding rights which a Negro in Florida is not legally permitted to demand. Again, and more recently, in Illinois the personal physician of Mahatma Gandhi, one of the great men of the world and an ardent supporter of the United Nations, was with his friends refused food in a restaurant, again because they were mistaken for Negroes. In a third case, a great insurance company in the United States in its development of a residential area which would serve for housing the employees of the United Nations, is insisting and reserving the right to discriminate against the persons received as residents for reasons of race and color."

The NAACP petition takes the President's Report out South would play into the hands of reactionaries of the South who from the beginning have condemned the report of the Committee."

conditions are not actually as they are.

eral legislation is not the solution to the American race problem. It also took issue with the Committee's recommendation that Federal aid be withheld from states permitting discrimination.

Tobias further revealed that copies of Southern editorial comment have been sent to the Committee. Southern "liberal" editors denouncing the report are Virginius Dabney, Ralph McGill and Josephus Daniels.

The Tarheel State

Broughton Criticizes Civil Rights Report

Journal, Daily News, Va.
By C. D. HALLIBURTON

SPEAKING at a recent meeting of 150 city and county school superintendents in Wilmington, J. Melville Broughton, former governor and now candidate for U. S. Senator, criticized the report of the President's Civil Rights Committee.

Describing race relations in North Carolina as "better than in any other state in the United States," according to a Wilmington daily, he added, "We're going to solve our race problems here, if outside agitators will only let us alone."

Former Governor Broughton endorsed strongly the idea of federal aid to education but said also: "If federal aid has to come with the conditions of this report, then North Carolina does not want it."

CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT MR. BROUGHTON has generally been regarded as one of the most liberal governors the state has ever had, both as to education and in his racial views, these recent statements of his are regarded by Negroes as a significant index. If any were needed, of the implacable opposition in important quarters within this state to any hint of abolition of segregation in education.

North Carolina has made great progress within the dual framework in improving educational facilities, and many observers believe that graduate and professional schools could open their doors to Negroes today, granted sufficient courage among educational leaders, but the prospect seems gloomy when leading public figures, speaking before educational leaders, feel impelled to express themselves as Mr. Broughton did.

NURSES AT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL, Wilmington, have transmitted to the hospital's board of trustees a request for increase in salary because of increased living costs. This action followed by a few days a demand by the nurse of James Walker Memorial Hospital, a white institution of the same city, for pay increases to staff nurses. The white nurses threatened a strike in connection with their campaign for bigger pay envelopes, but the strike threat was also due partly to the refusal of the white hospital's board to recognize the State Nurses' Association, to which Walker Memorial's nurses belong, as a bargaining agency for the group.

The Negro nurses' request is therefore on a different basis from that of the white nurses, since the Community group does not belong to the State Nurses' Association, nor do any other Negro nurse. No suggestion of any coercive action was included in the approach made by the Community Hospital nurses.

Graduate nurses begin with a salary of \$105 and certain maintenance at Community, and there is no provision for automatic increases based on length of service.

WHILE THE STATE'S COLLEGES AS A WHOLE registered a 12 per cent increase in enrollment this year over last year, Negro col-

leges report an aggregate gain of 26 per cent. White colleges show a considerably larger proportion of veterans in their total enrollment than do the Negro colleges, it was revealed in figures released by the U. S. Office of Education recently.

Every Negro college in the state has shared in the post-war enrollment increase. Both North Carolina A. and T. College and North Carolina College, Durham, reported a 1947-1948 registration of more than a thousand, A. and T.'s enrollment being listed as 2,748, including 1,001 freshmen, and N. C. College's 1,001, with 340 freshmen.

Shaw University leads the private institutions with a total enrollment of 825, including 264 freshmen, followed closely by Johnson C. Smith University with 805 students, of whom 188 are first year men and women. Bennett, the three state teachers colleges, and St. Augustine's all have enrollments of 400 to 500, with freshmen students ranging between 125 and 160.

Livingstone, with 389, belongs in the same class. Barber Scotia, only recently expanded from a junior to a senior college, and restricted to women students, is listed as having enrolled 151 students.

Veteran enrollment is listed in the Office of Education releases as follows: A. and T., 1,636; Bennett (women), one; Elizabeth City, 45; Fayetteville, 79; Smith, 278; Livingstone, 86; North Carolina College, 286; St. Augustine's, 90; Shaw, 173; Winston-Salem, 95.

AN ITEM FROM CHARLOTTE, captioned, "Junior Cops," reported that two Negro boys pushed and pulled "a very large drunken customer" into police headquarters not long ago.

The young fellows, described as "public-spirited," explained their action by saying that some bystander had observed that the drunk ought to be in jail, and so they fetched him in. They gave their ages as 13.

THE ADMINISTRATOR ACTS

Defender

To say one thing and do another is an age old political strategem. We have long grown accustomed to the emptiness of campaign promises, to the futility of winning party platform pledges, and to the meaningless of noble proposals proffered by those who feel this must be done to win votes. There has developed among us a hearty skepticism which is grounded in the dashed hopes and bitter experiences of generations after generations.

In the magnificent report of the President's Civil Rights Committee there was outlined a broad program of action, a series of important recommendations which called for the cooperation of the administration on the one hand and for the cooperation of the Congress on the other. Unless these recommendations are acted upon there is little doubt that the committee's report will become merely an important document and nothing more. It is not surprising, in the light of past experiences, that a great many Negro Americans are frankly skeptical of the chances for full implementation of the new civil rights program advanced by the President's committee.

The sincerity of President Truman with regard to the program was indicated last week as Atty. Gen. Tom Clark announced that his office was filing briefs in the suit brought by

aggrieved Negro trainmen and the suits involving restrictive covenants now before the U.S. Supreme Court. Here we have the government itself joining hands with aggrieved Negro citizens seeking redress in our highest courts. This certainly is a most encouraging development and one that is full of promise for the future.

Some of the most important recommendations of the President's committee, however, require Congressional action. The proposals for fair employment practice, anti-lynching, and anti-poll tax legislation, which are all primary weapons in the national fight against racial discrimination in America, are squarely up to the men and women on Capitol Hill.

The record of the 80th Congress, which virtually ignored every liberal measure in behalf of Negroes, does not inspire confidence. While liberal Republicans and Democrats in the Congress can be expected to support the new blueprint for freedom outlined by the President's committee, there are simply not enough of them. The reactionary elements in both parties are calling the tune and the majority of Congressmen have been dancing to it. We believe with the President's committee that the time for action against racism in our national life is

putting themselves on a limb which we must pledge to help cut off in 1948.

Defender

PRESIDENTIAL ASPIRANTS EVADE COMMITMENTS ON CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT

December 12, 1947

New York, Dec. 11th--Few of the individuals who have been mentioned as possible candidates for the Presidency on the Republican or Democratic tickets have been willing to date to answer the request of the NAACP for opinions on the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. On November 14th, Walter White, NAACP secretary, asked each of the aspirants "Do you approve of the Committee's recommendations? If not, will you tell us which ones you disapprove and the reasons for your disapproval."

Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan and Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon have replied that pressure of work in connection with the special session of Congress has prevented them from giving the recommendations contained in the report as thorough study as they wish to give. Both Senators have promised opinions at a later date.

Charles Dahle, Assistant Press Secretary, has acknowledged the NAACP letter on behalf of Governor Earl Warren of California and promised to call to the Governor's attention the request for a comment "at the earliest opportunity."

Harold E. Stassen has made the only forthright comment in a telegram dated December 5 from Columbus, Ohio reading, "In response to your letter of November 14th I consider the Report of the Wilson Committee on Civil Rights to be a superb document stop I give it general support now and intend to speak on its recommendations in detail in the coming months."

Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York made no direct reply. James C. Hagerty, Executive Assistant to the Governor instead wrote his opinion as follows: "A careful reading of the recommendations lead me to believe that the State of New York, under Governor Dewey's leadership, has already taken many of the steps which the report recommends. Mr. Hagerty calls attention to the New York State law against discrimination in employment and to introduction in Congress by Senator Irving M. Ives of New York of a "Fair Trades Employment Act" which is presumed to mean the Fair Employment Practice Act. Mr. White has thanked Mr. Hagerty for his opinion but requested that Governor Dewey give his views.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower has replied through an Aide that as long as he is Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army he is unable to express opinions on this and other matters involving legislation.

No reply has been received to date from Senator Robert A. Taft, General Douglas MacArthur, Congressman Joseph W. Martin, Jr. of Massachusetts, Henry A. Wallace and former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes.

much of the Northern mind is
recommendations. Furthermore,
mind. *W. B. G.* But the document has tremen-
dous value. If not now, Congress
must in time enact some of the
recommendations into law. Some
of the more enlightened States will
be stimulated to do something in
their legislation. The report will

to get them to enact these rec-they would lack moral courage to bear upon their representatives a basis for action without which voters to bring any pressure to give individuals and organizations

set in. There is nothing new in them. The same old argument, "the time is not ripe." The time is never ripe for action in this area for the timid, the deeply prejudiced, and, for the person who is afraid of both Christianity and democracy. But there are others of us who believe that the time is always ripe to repair a faulty democracy and to strengthen a wobbling Christianity just as the time is always ripe to repair a leaking roof on your residence. The longer the roof goes unrepaired, the greater the cost and danger. The same holds true if a faulty social structure goes without repair. It is like cancer on the body-politics. I cannot see how anyone clothed in his right mind can say the time is not ripe to put an end to gross injustices such as lynching, for example. *Courier*

BUT I DO NOT EXPECT any immediate Congressional action on many of these recommendations, if any. Since the South runs the Congress, I expect Southern Senators and Congressmen to oppose most of these measures and I do not expect the East and West to go against the South where the Negro is involved. And I do not expect Southern

Report of President's Committee Will Disturb Our Uneasy Consciences

GREAT DOCUMENT

By BENJAMIN E. MAY, S-

column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

PEOPLE of both groups are

asking about the report of the President's Commission on Civil Rights. It is the best thing of its kind ever written. And I doubt that any better statement on the subject can be written. We are happy that Dr. Chan-

ning H. Tobias and Mrs. Sadie T. Alexander were members of the Commission. To have the Committee chaired by a man of the stature of Charles E. Wilson should give prestige to the report. Everyone should read the entire report. Church people should welcome it with arms.

William: 18

HERE ARE SOME of the things recommended: The enactment by Congress of an anti-lynching law; establishing a procedure by which claims of evictions for specific property and

business losses resulting from war-time evacuation can be promptly considered and settled; action by State or Congress to extend poll taxes as a voting prerequisite; **50213-6-47**

The enactment of a statute protecting the right of qualified persons to participate in Federal primaries and elections against interference by public officers and private persons, and of a statute protecting the right to qualify for, or participate in, Federal or State primaries or elections against discriminatory action by State officers based on race or color, or depending on any other unreasonable classification of persons for voting purposes.

Law by Congress to end all

national origin in all the branches of the armed services; laws against discrimination of anyone in the armed forces by public authority or place of public accommodation; the elimination

The enactment of a Federal FEPC, and the conditioning by Congress of all Federal grant-in-aid and other forms of Federal assistance to public or private agencies for any purpose on the absence of discrimination and segregation based on race, color, creed, or national origin; laws prohibiting discrimination or segregation, based on race, color, creed, or national origin in interstate or national origin in interstate transportation, and all facilities thereof. These are some of the recommendations.

REACTIONS HAVE already

Mr. Mays

President Can Establish an FEPC in Government by Executive Order

Union Says Public Sentiment Can Translate Civil Rights Recommendation Into Action

WASHINGTON — The United Public Workers of America, CIO, in a nation-wide campaign to help expedite the attainment of goals set forth in the report of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights, declares: "President Truman has the power to establish an FEPC in government by Executive Order. No special (Congressional) legislation is necessary to handle this critical (job) situation at once."

"It now appears, in light of the recommendations of the President's Committee, that an FEPC for Federal employees can become a reality if a sufficient number of prominent citizens indicate their support for such action."

12 Agencies Listed

Pointing to "evidence which reveals the more blatant forms of discrimination practiced by agencies of the Federal Government," the UPW lists 12 of them which have clerical vacancies "for white but not for colored applicants."

General Accounting Office, Commerce Department — bureau of standards, patent office; the Treasury Department — internal revenue; Federal Security Agency Public health service; Federal Works Agency — public buildings; Justice Department — alien property custodian; Navy Department — International Bank, Government Printing Office, War Department — Army Security; State Department, and Bureau of the Budget.

Report Clause Emphasized

The union calls special attention to recommendation No. 5 of the Civil Rights Committee's report headed, "To Strengthen the Right to Equality of Opportunity," which states: *Sat. 12-6-47*

"The issuance by the President of a mandate against discrimination in government employment and the creation of adequate machinery to enforce this mandate ... It may well be desirable to establish a government fair employment practice commission."

Photograph Still Needed

The UPW also calls attention to the fact that, although the practice of forcing a job applicant to sub-

mit a photograph was discarded years ago as "discriminatory," application blanks from the FBI still requires submission of a photograph.

Also, blanks from the State Department provide a space for the applicant to record his race. The UPW charges that "the Federal Government itself is rapidly becoming one of the worst of the prejudiced employers."

Too Many Officials Duck This Vital Obligation

THERE is an obligation upon men chosen by the voters for high public office to keep the electorate informed as to their views on questions of major public interest. A shockingly large proportion of such men disregard this obligation too frequently. A case in point involves many governors of the American states and a number of other past and present office holders who are either avowed or known aspirants to the most exalted office within the gift of the American people — the Presidency.

The JOURNAL AND GUIDE recently requested fourteen governors of distinctly southern states, among others, to comment on the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

One replied, candidly and at some length. He was Governor JAMES E. FOLSOM of Alabama. He viewed the committee's recommendations "as a step in the right direction" for achieving "true democracy" — which he held to be imperative. *Norfolk Va*

As to the thirteen other southern governors queried, this was the result: one was "unavailable"; four "absent" from capitol, office, or city; seven, no reply, and one, "has not seen report."

The governor of West Virginia, a border state, expressed "heartly agreement with the broad principles of the report." The governors of Delaware and New Jersey, which are not geographically of the South but otherwise are acute race problem states, had, respectively, "not seen report"

and made no reply. *Sat. 11-27-47*
The past or present active candidates for the Republican nomination for President made a sorry showing, indeed, in refusing to stand up and be counted on this most vital issue.

HAROLD STASSEN of Minnesota, who has just published a book entitled "Where I Stand," was reported by his secretary to be "out of the state until weekend."

Governor EARL WARREN of California was "out of state and not available for comment," his secretary stated. Less than two weeks later he formally announced himself to be an aspirant for the Presidency.

Governor THOMAS E. DEWEY of New York was the GOP standard-bearer in the 1944 election, and without question, wants the nomination again. Neither he nor any of his high-powerer aides deigned even to acknowledge our query.

Senator ROBERT A. TAFT sent no reply, nor did his office; neither did Senator JOHN W. BRICKER, also of Ohio. Senator TAFT sought the Republican nomination before, and he is on record as a candidate for the nomination again. Senator BRICKER was his party's choice for the office of Vice President in 1944.

We suggest that readers file away this data for reference when the time comes for them to decide on how they will cast their ballots. In this connection, it is relevant to quote briefly from an article in the Nov. 22 issue of Collier's by WALTER WHITE.

"The political development of the Negro so far in this country has given him an interest in basic issues and specific legislation which affect him both as a Negro and as an American citizen ... How will the Negro vote in 1947? Negro leaders from Maine to California have told me that it depends entirely upon what the Democrats and the Republicans do between now and election time ... The party that wins the Negro vote in 1948 will be the one that offers some concrete evidence that it intends at least to help him get a square deal. That is all the Negro has ever wanted."

"Hard pressed already by unemployment, cynical of politicians, and rapidly approaching political maturity, the Negro voter watches with a hard-boiled eye the antics of the would-be Presidents and lawmakers. He knows perfectly well that the most effective weapon he possesses at this critical juncture is the vote. And he is grimly determined to use that weapon on the basis of what happens between now and Election Day and not on the basis of what happened in

previous administrations."

It would be well for would-be Presidents, lawmakers, and chief executives of states to mark this opinion of a shrewd political analyst and to begin to stand up and be counted on all matters in the public interest.

Still another observation, this time made by a white observer of acknowledged acuteness and impartiality, deserves the serious attention of these same leaders. It is the view set forth by JOHN GUNTHER in his widely-heralded book, *Inside U. S. A.* (Harper and Bros., \$5):

"One thing, it would seem, is certain. The days of treating Negroes like sheep are done with. They cannot be maintained indefinitely in a submerged position, because they themselves are now strong enough to contest this position, because the overwhelming bulk of white Americans are, in the last analysis, decent-minded, and because of education ...

"There will never be a 'solution' of the Negro problem satisfactory to everybody. But improvements, no matter how fitful, must continue if American democracy itself is to survive. Discrimination not only contaminates the Negro community; it contaminates the white as well. There were people in the Middle Ages who thought that the bubonic plague would not spread to their own precious selves. But there is no immunity to certain types of diseases. A cancer will destroy a body, unless cured."

THE Courier Salutes

The first member of President Truman's history-making Civil Liberties Committee to make a public statement was Charles Luckman, president of the nationally known Lever Brothers firm. His remarks were highly significant.

Not only did Mr. Luckman urge the early appointment of a permanent Commission on Civil Rights, but he also pointed out the important fact that public opinion is going to be the "governing factor" in changing the circumstance of America's minority groups. Legislation, he said, can provide the "framework" for action. *Pat. H. H. Pa*

Mr. Luckman was also courageous enough to admit in a recent talk that he knew very little about the problems of minorities before he joined the committee, and that his experience

with them was a real education. "Ten months of intensive research has not made me an authority, but has made me very conscious of the tremendous task that lies ahead," declared Mr. Luckman. *Sat. 12-13-47*

Other members of the Committee found Mr. Luckman not only sincere in his efforts, but very cooperative in the tremendous and historic project which

set a new pattern for a real democratic code of fair play for all Americans. *12-13-47*

For his sincerity and courage and for his vision and genuine democratic philosophies, The Courier proudly salutes this week Charles Luckman.

11 1947

The significance of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights

By Benjamin J. Davis

Communist Councilman for Manhattan

the warner newspaper n.y.
THE PUBLICATION of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights was of considerable importance. Having many unique aspects, the event is receiving the widest discussion among the Negro people and other sections of the population. *Sum. 11-23-47*

The document recounts the sad fate of the Negro and other minorities and makes a number of recommendations, mainly of a legislative character against Jimcrow and discrimination, which are acceptable and useful in the struggle to secure full citizenship rights for the Negro and to uphold civil liberties in general.



What is new about the report is not so much the revelation of the barbaric treatment accorded the Negro people, although it will serve to inform a much broader section of the population on this score. Nor are the recommendations new, since for a long time the Negro people and their allies have been pressing for anti-poll tax, anti-lynch, FEPC and other legislation to abolish Jimcrow.

As a matter of fact, the Communists, as others, have long been relating the ills of the Negro people and conducting a struggle to wipe them out—translating their words into deeds. The Communists can claim priority in time on this question in modern America and the whole of America can be thankful that the Communists have been working at this question, as upon others, for the last 25 years. *Sum. 11-23-47*

WHEN THE Communists, and other labor-progressive forces, assert that there is a vicious anti-Negro system of national oppression and propose realistic remedies, we, Communists, are supposed to be "subversive" or "agents of Moscow." Will Rankin or Dewey, the states rights champion, now claim that Charles E. Wilson, the General Electric baron and Wall Street imperialist, is an "agent of Moscow?"

THE REPORT contains certain basically objectionable features—its slanders of Negroes, its proposal to turn over civil liberties to the tender mercies of the Gestapo-like FBI (which specializes in hounding individuals and organizations that fight for civil liberties), and it assaults common sense by lumping fascists and Communists together. These and other serious weaknesses in the report can only serve to disorient and disunite the struggle for civil liberties, thus endangering the realization of any of the acceptable proposals of the Committee.

Different members of the Committee obviously had different motives in connection with the report. Some undoubtedly were sincere. The same cannot be said of Wilson, the big monopolist, against whom the CIO United Electrical and Radio Workers has been struggling for years to break down job-discrimination against Negroes and other minorities in General Electric. The report should be used to expose the Wilsons.

THE MAIN NEW THING about the report is not in the report at all, but is to be found in the political setting in which the report is brought forward.

The document was released at a moment when Wall Street, operating through the bi-partisan Truman Administration, is pursuing a foreign policy—namely, the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan—which is seeking world domination, supporting reactionary pro-fascist regimes, interfering with other countries' sovereignty and

P. C. on C. R.

toward World War III against the Soviet Union—the country which most symbolizes freedom and equality for minority groups and small nations.

On the domestic front, Wall Street, which dominates both major parties, is pursuing a policy which leads to fascism, unless checked by the people. The one person in the Administration who fought for peace, Negro rights and civil liberties, Truman unceremoniously and stupidly kicked out—namely, Henry Wallace. The same government which is backing tyranny and war abroad, and supporting fascist reaction at home, cannot be expected to back equality for the Negro people or protect civil liberties. The danger is that this report will be used as a smokescreen of demagoguery for establishing fascism.

The report fantastically endorses and describes the Administration's foreign policy as one "for progress and peace," and it hopes to nullify some of the criticism of that policy which is supposed to "promote democracy" all over the world.

Further, the report hopes also to offset the Third Party movement and the Wallace-third-ticket, by trying to rebuild the shattered illusions of the Negro people and other minority groups in the decadent two-party system for the crucial 1948 elections. The report carefully avoids assessing responsibility on the big monopolies—and their southern feudal allies—and on the failure of Congress for the last 50 years, during both major parties' supremacy, to do anything about these evils. According to the report, the lynch system just happened.

TRUMAN was compelled to release this report after the NAACP filed its excellent petition with the UN, and in the face of the growing militant pressure of the Negro and his allies against increasing lynch terror, and because the whole of progressive humanity is beginning to see through the hypocrisy of the foreign and domestic policies of Washington.

The report is neither wholly acceptable as a charter of civil liberties, nor can it be ignored or dismissed. It is to be hoped that the anti-fascist fighters for Negro rights and civil liberties in general will not be divided on whether one is for or against the report. The issue is still peace, democracy and civil liberties versus imperialism, war and fascism.

The greatest need of the hour is still the development of an independent Negro people's unity movement, in alliance with labor and progressives, to bring its weight to bear on the next session of Congress—for progressive legislation—and to build a third party for a people's victory in '48.

Unabated struggle from day-to-day and issue-to-issue against Wall Street and its political lickspittles is the key to success.

HANDICAP

In order to unify the efforts and to stir endeavors of members of the Negro group to action on the President's Civil Rights Committee some parts of our history, between the Reconstruction and the present, are necessary to have in mind.

The Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution came to the Negro people under the leadership of the Republican Party.

The Negro people feel that they would place themselves among the ungrateful, if they should wantonly disregard their allegiance to this political party. Such was this allegiance that Frederick Douglass declared: "The Republican Party is the ship and all else is the sea."

Some people think history may be represented by a horizontal or a vertical line, whereas it is more generally represented by a zig zag line. Because of this fact, many persons think political parties hold continuously to their predominant policies, whereas these policies are in a constant ebb, and flow.

21-47
Solved by the election of Hayes. With this election, there was an understanding that soldiers would be withdrawn from the Southern states, and the white people would be given a free hand to administer the governments of their individual states.

From the beginning of President Hayes' administration to this day the Republican Party has played loose and fast with the Negro minority group.

Senators Barkley and Taft entered into an agreement where-by Bilbo was permitted not to be seated, but to leave Washington and draw his salary—contrary to the law.

Negroes are no longer obligated to vote for any party not of their own choosing. It will be tragic, if they should fail to vote, for the persons who share their convictions of justice and who sympathize with their aspirations and purposes to attain free citizenship along with people of the nation. Shake off the handicap and make yourselves free citizens.

citizens.

Vice President Johnson succeeded to the presidency after the death of President Lincoln. President Johnson was succeeded by President Grant, and President Grant by President Hayes. Meanwhile the abolition members of Congress had passed out—Thaddeus Stevens, James A. Garfield and other note-worthy members were no longer at the helm.

There was a controversy over the presidency, in the address in Atlanta last week, placed his finger on a most vital omission in the report of the President's Civil Rights Hayes and Tilden election. The controversy was dis-

More Light On The Subject

Former U. S. Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, in his address in Atlanta last week, placed his finger on a most vital omission in the report of the President's Civil Rights

Committee. The report, Mr. Wallace found, points unerringly to places and conditions in which Americans are deprived under coercion of the rights guaranteed them by the Constitution and the consideration expected of a Christian society. Nevertheless, he said, the committee fails to show that while lynchings have decreased in recent years, police brutality has arisen to take the place of lynching.

A mere glance at the number of Negroes being killed by city and county officers of the law in most of the southern communities will convince us of the logic in Mr. Wallace's speech. Everywhere and under the slightest pretense, officers of the law in the South mow down Negroes and trump up satisfactory reasons for their action before the courts. Indeed there are splendid exceptions to the rule. But by and large, brutality to Negroes is the rule. Police officers will not welcome this criticism. Nevertheless it is difficult to escape its logic. *Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.*

Neither will some Washingtonians like the special section in the report titled, "Civil Rights in the Nation's Capital," because the proposal is first to apply rather drastic treatment where it is wanted least. "Our Nation's Capital, the city of Washington," continues the report, "should serve as a symbol of democracy to the entire world." *Tri. 11-28-4*

Probably no other place in the land presents such a spectacle of lack of social obligation as does Washington. Almost under the dome of the Capitol Building there are slums that should be the shame of any Christian community. Statistics show that Washington is the worst slum-ridden city in America. Yet in the committee's recommendation to Congress of legislation to prohibit existing evils, one looks in vain for any proposal to banish or even retard the enemy, strong drink, which is the chief contributor to slums, crime, poverty and suffering. Both of these omissions are reasons for deep regret.

Civil Rights

Dear Editor:
At long last I have found time to read, in its entirety, the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. *PM.*

PM is rendering a valuable public service by publicizing that Report. *New York R. N. Y.*

The Report is a scathing indictment of the inefficiency, ineptitude, bungling, and hypocrisy of our so-called democracy. *Tri. 11-21-4*

I see no sense in abolishing discrimination against "minority groups" because of "race, color, creed, or national origin" only. Why not abolish all discriminations including that which is based on "social, economic, or financial status?" *11-21-47*

It will be useless to enact "anti-poll tax legislation" because the citizens of those states will immediately find some other excuse to prevent from voting those who don't, or won't, "vote right."

We are using our influence, and in some cases our armed forces, to establish and maintain, in various foreign nations and at taxpayers' expense, governments which are lit-

tle, if any, more democratic than are the governments of Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, and various other states of this great democracy.

Although we insist that elections in foreign lands be free and voting universal, we would demonstrate our sincerity more effectively if we would send our armed forces into the poll tax states to insure free and fair elections there.

GEORGE F. CURRY

Martins Ferry, O.

RACIAL:

To Secure These Rights

New York R. N. Y.

Along with countless other newspaper readers in July 1946, Harry S. Truman was horrified by what had just happened in Monroe, Ga. A band of armed white men had dragged four Negroes, two of them women, from the car in which they were riding, lined them up, and killed them in cold blood. Watching the spread of totalitarianism in Europe, Americans had taken just pride in the democracy which the vast majority of them enjoyed at home. To Mr. Truman, the massacre at Monroe was shocking evidence that pride was no excuse for smugness.

The President ordered the Justice Department to investigate the lynchings and take whatever action it could under existing Federal law. He quickly discovered what the government had long ago learned: Federal law was inadequate to cope with such cases. So on Dec. 5, Mr. Truman asked Charles E. Wilson, towering, 60-year-old president of General Electric, and fourteen other business, labor, and civic leaders to study the problem, discover the extent to which civil rights were violated in the United States, and recommend action to cope with the violations.

Last week, after laboring for nearly eleven months, the President's Committee on Civil Rights called on him at the White House to deliver its 178-page report, entitled "To Secure These Rights," from the phrase in the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Truman was beaming. "It's all right, it's all right," he congratulated Wilson, telling him he already had read the report. Then, asking the American people to read it too, he declared that, with the postwar resurgence of racial and religious intolerance, "an American charter of human freedom" was never more necessary.

We Have Sinned: In establishing the committee, the President had urged that it focus its attention "not upon our achievements in protecting our heritage of civil liberties, but upon our shortcomings and mistakes." The report did precisely that, noting merely that "this necessary emphasis upon our country's failures should not be permitted to

obscure the real measure of its successes." Among the failures:

► In many parts of the country, the police beat prisoners and third-degree them. They are sometimes less than alert in safeguarding civil rights. *New York R. N. Y.*
► There are sections where Americans of Mexican descent, Indians, and Negroes cannot get justice in the courts. Moreover, they are given heavier penalties than whites guilty of the same offense.

► Despite the decrease in lynchings, at least six persons were killed by mobs in 1946. *11-10-47*

► In the South, the policy of separate but equal facilities has failed. Less money is spent on Negro schools than on schools for whites. There are fewer libraries for

Negroes. Facilities in restaurants and hotels are less adequate.

► Negroes—and, to some extent, Jews—are discriminated against in employment. ► The armed services also discriminate against Negroes. In the Army, for example, there is one Negro officer to every 70 Negro enlisted men, as compared with the white ratio of 1 to 7.

► Many Northern schools have quotas for Jewish students, and only token numbers of Negroes are taken. In New York City, in 25 years, less than 50 Negroes have been able to get through medical school.

Atonement: To remedy these conditions, the committee made 35 recommendations, among them elimination of the poll tax, abolition of the white primary, Federal anti-lynching legislation, and Federal action to end segregation. It also urged the Justice Department to recognize and expand its Civil Rights Division and set up regional offices that could handle cases on the spot.

Beyond expansion of the Civil Rights Division, adoption of these proposals seemed remote. As a package it was loaded with political dynamite.

Economic Security Urged to Destroy Their Appeal

Civil Rights Committee Member Says

Underprivileged Anxious to Believe Facists

3-11-27-47
NEW YORK—The real agitators in the South are 66 hate sheets being circulated by natives fascists, declared Mrs. Milton E. Tilly, a member of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, at a press conference here last week.

In New York to participate, with four other committee members, in a forum sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority at Town Hall, Dec. 12, Mrs. Tilly said:

"All of these sheets preach hatred of Jews and colored people in the most virulent terms. The purveyors of hate want to keep the workers busy hating colored people so that they will not brood on their own economic troubles and join unions."

Liberal groups, especially those in which women are dominant, are fighting to abolish the South's unchristian discrimination, Mrs. Tilly said, but little can be done until economic insecurity is ended.

Stating further that the native fascists seem a greater menace than the American communists, she said that the fascists and their hate sheets can be routed, but only if living standards are raised in the South. *12-27-47*
The hate sheets are well-

financed, many by leading churchmen who don't want their names known, declared Mrs. Tilly, expressing the hope that the civil rights committee's recommendation that propaganda organizations be required to disclose their backers be enacted into law soon.

Klan Chapter in Church
Secretary of Christian Relations of the Southeastern Methodist Church, Mrs. Tilly stated that typical of the journals is a weekly led "The Militant," which is edited in Columbus, Ga., by a renegade Baptist preacher known as "Parson Jack."

Bearing little resemblance to anything Christian and only sparsely attended, his church was the headquarters of a Ku Klux Klan chapter, which "Parson Jack" set up, she said.

Anxious to Believe Lies
The hate sheets are dangerous, Mrs. Tilly asserted, because they emphasize stories on attacks on white women, stories which the "poor and miserable" white men for whom they are printed are willing and anxious to believe.

The general nature of their readership is typified by the Columbians, whose leaders were convicted for antiracial actions.

declared that incidents such as occurred in Columbia, Tenn., can happen so long as there is fear "that there will not be enough wages, housing, schools and hospitals to go around."

representative membership of 600." Mrs. Tilly, who has been active in the formation of such councils throughout the South, said that the Atlanta body already has issued equalized so that "equal" parks and schools will be provided for both racial groups.

South Termed Ashamed
insisting that the South is aware and ashamed of her own shortcomings, she declared that fear has hung over the area since the war, with the white people afraid of the colored returned soldiers and the colored people afraid of the white.

Finally citing experiences in several areas of tension which she has visited after outbreaks, she

the country." Liberal Groups Overlooked
Indirectly attacking emphasis on such hate groups, Mrs. Tilly said that there were not many Columbian groups, but "you read more about your buns, but they in your papers that you did had about our Atlanta Interracial Council, which now has a widely convinced them they would rule Council, which now has a widely

Willard Townsend

Defender
To Secure These Rights

A BREATH OF FRESH air swept through Washington last week.

It came from the slightly northeastern direction of Bunker Hill, Boston Commons and Gettysburg. Without fuss and fanfare, it moved steadily down Pennsylvania ave. to the 1600 block. Momentarily, it touched Constitution ave., and without lingering to cleanse the foul body odors of political bigotry emanating from the burlesque "hearings" on un-American activities, it gathered momentum and deep purpose as it crossed the Alleghenies into the broad prairie lands of the middle-west and onward, onward, onward to the Rockies and the shores of the Pacific. *Sat. 11-15-47*



As it returned southward, it paused to shiver at the "strange fruit" dangling from a Mississippi tree. Here, I must return for a long visit someday, it mused. The sheer joy on the black sweat-soaked faces of men who looked up from their cotton fields, school houses, steel mills and kitchens as it passed by was proof of a real welcome into the simple, but tormented, lives of these dispossessed people.

It was the same cold, biting wind that stung the cheeks of Tom Paine when he wrote "Common Sense" six months before the Declaration of Independence. Many years later, but with warm and tender affection it caressed the beard of old Walt Whitman as his inspired pen hammered out "Leaves of Grass," the monumental and poetic essays on freedom. Christ felt it at Galilee; Paul felt it on the road to Damascus; Thoreau felt it at Walden; John Brown felt it at Harpers Ferry and Fred Douglas inhaled great gusts of it in his perilous journey from bondage and fear. In the never-ending conquest of human, moral and social bondage this same sweep of fresh air has given courage, conviction and new hope to the plain people of every age.

It is the spiritual air of faith in all mankind and an inner recognition of one's moral responsibility to his fellowmen.

It Really Didn't Happen

THERE ARE THOSE who may believe that such a healthy breeze would face great barriers in reaching the little stuffy and callous political metropolis on the banks of the Potomac. This may be true, but in this instance we can assure you that it really did happen.

It came in the form of the 178 page report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights un-

The Other Side

der the ambitious and much-to-be-developed title, "To Secure These Rights." Not since the days of the Constitutional Convention of 1789 and the final draft of the highly controversial Bill of Rights has our government uttered an official word that has more meaning, hope and democratic essence than this stout and eloquent statement of America's minority and civil rights problem. *Defender, Chicago, Ill.*

The committee, which represented a broad cross-section of America, investigated the four basic civil rights and found many holes in our democratic armor. These rights are: (1) The right to safety and security of person, (2) The right to citizenship and its privileges, (3) The right to freedom of conscious and expression, (4) The right to equality of opportunity. The committee's recommendations were specific and concrete. The report should be required reading for every literate individual in these United States. The much-publicized Freedom Train would do yeoman's service in the interest of its project if this most recent government document on freedom was distributed at all points of its tour. Printing costs could be assumed through individual contributions. *Sat. 11-15-47*

The committee has reminded us of one major fact. Democracy should never become a fetish or a mask to hide our moral weaknesses.

The Means and the End

AS AMERICANS, we have developed the unhappy faculty of confusing the means with the end in fulfilling our democratic aspirations. We have yet to learn that democracy as a political form is the means, and freedom, human dignity and social justice is the end. Democracy is not the finished product, but rather the sharp tool of individual freedom and collective security from fear. When these tools become dull, ineffective and worthless, then we should shop around for other tools. Call it any "ism" we may desire, but we must remember that modern social systems and governments are presumably established "by, for and of the people," and if they do not serve the social, economic and moral needs of the "self-governed" their foundations will eventually crumble.

It would be well to consider the constitutional amendments embracing the Bill of Rights as the major "tool" amendments designed for the primary purpose of hammering out the democratic America that the great majority of us want. The President's Committee on Civil Rights has provided us with an excellent new whet-stone to sharpen these tools.

'TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS.'

Full List Of Recommendations

To President

WASHINGTON—Following is the list of recommendations of the President's Civil Rights Committee. Presented Oct. 29, after 11 months of continuous work by a cross section of the nation's leaders, the report was delivered Oct. 29 with this preface:

"The United States is not so strong, the final triumph of the democratic ideal not so inevitable, that we can ignore what the world thinks of our record."

The Committee's recommendations in detail. *Times*

To strengthen the machinery for the protection of civil rights, the President's Committee recommends: *New York*

1. The reorganization of the Civil Rights Section of the Department of Justice to provide for:

The establishment of regional offices; *Sat. 11-8-47*

A substantial increase in its appropriation and staff to enable it to engage in more extensive research and to act more effectively to prevent civil rights violations;

An increase in investigative action in the absence of complaints;

The greater use of civil sanctions;

Its elevation to the status of a full division in the Department of Justice.

2. The establishment within the FBI of a special unit of investigators trained in civil rights work.

3. The establishment by the state governments of law enforcement agencies comparable to the Federal Civil Rights Section.

4. The establishment of a permanent Commission on Civil Rights in the Executive Office of the President, preferably by Act of Congress;

And the simultaneous creation of a Joint Standing Committee on Civil Rights in Congress.

5. The establishment by the states of permanent commissions on civil rights to parallel the work of the Federal Commission at the state level. *11-8-47*

To strengthen the right to safety and security of the person, the President's Committee recommends:

1. The enactment by Congress of new legislation to supplement Section 51 of Title 18 of the United States Code which would impose the same liability on one person as is now imposed by that statute on two or more conspirators.

2. The amendment of Section 51 to remove the penalty provision which disqualifies persons convicted under the Act from holding public office.

3. The amendment of Section 52 to increase the maximum penalties that may be imposed under it from a \$1,000 fine and a one-year prison term to a \$5,000 fine and a ten-

year prison term, thus bringing its penalty provisions into line with those in Section 51.

4. The enactment by Congress of a new statute, to supplement Section 52, specifically directed against police brutality and related crimes.

5. The enactment by Congress of an antilynching act.

6. The enactment by Congress of a new criminal statute on involuntary servitude, supplementing Sections 443 and 444 of Title 18 of the United States Code.

7. A review of our wartime evacuation and detention experience looking toward the development of a policy which will prevent the abridgement of civil rights of any person or groups because of race or ancestry.

8. Enactment by Congress of legislation establishing a procedure by which claims of evacuees for specific property and business losses resulting from the wartime evacuation can be promptly considered and settled. *New York*

To strengthen the right to citizenship and its privileges, the President's Committee recommends:

1. Action by the states or Congress to end poll-taxes as a voting prerequisite. *Times*

2. The enactment by Congress of a statute protecting the right of qualified persons to participate in Federal primaries and elections against interference by public officers and private persons.

3. The enactment by Congress of a statute protecting the right to qualify for, or participate in, Federal or state primaries or elections against discriminatory action by state officers based on race or color, or depending on any other unreasonable classification of persons for voting purposes.

4. The enactment by Congress of legislation establishing local self-government for the District of Columbia; and the amendment of the Constitution to extend suffrage in Presidential elections, and representation in Congress to District residents. *11-8-47*

5. The granting of suffrage by the states of New Mexico and Arizona to their Indian citizens.

6. The modification of the Federal naturalization laws to permit the granting of citizenship without regard to race, color, or national origin of applicants.

7. The repeal by the states of laws discriminating against aliens who are ineligible for citizenship because of race, color, or national origin.

8. The enactment by Congress of legislation granting citizenship to the people of Guam and American Samoa.

9. The enactment by Congress of legislation, followed by appropriate administrative action, to end im-

mediately all discrimination and segregation based on race, color, creed, or national origin, in the organization and activities of the branches of the armed services. 10. The enactment by Congress of legislation providing that no member of the armed forces shall be subject to discrimination of any kind by any public authority or place of public accommodation, recreation, transportation, or service or business.

To strengthen the right to equality of opportunity, the President's Committee recommends: 1. IN GENERAL—The elimination of segregation, based on race, color, creed, or national origin, from American life.

2. FOR EMPLOYMENT—The enactment of a federal Fair Employment Practices Act prohibiting all forms of discrimination in private employment, based on race, color, creed, or national origin.

3. FOR EDUCATION—Enactment of laws to ensure that the states of the Union maintain a scrupulously maintained.

4. The enactment by Congress and the executive branch clarifying the obligations of federal employees, and establishing standards and procedures by which the civil rights of public workers may be scrupulously maintained.

5. The enactment by Congress of legislation requiring all groups, which attempt to influence public opinion, to disclose the pertinent facts about themselves through systematic registration procedures.

6. The enactment by Congress of legislation establishing a branch of the executive branch clarifying the obligations of federal employees, and establishing standards and procedures by which the civil rights of public workers may be scrupulously maintained.

7. The enactment by Congress of legislation, followed by appropriate administrative action, to end im-

mediately all discrimination and segregation based on race, color, creed, or national origin, in the organization and activities of the branches of the armed services.

10. The enactment by Congress of legislation providing that no member of the armed forces shall be subject to discrimination of any kind by any public authority or place of public accommodation, recreation, transportation, or service or business.

To strengthen the right to freedom of conscience and expression

1. The enactment by Congress of legislation, followed by appropriate administrative action, to end im-

bidding discrimination and segregation based on race, creed, color, or national origin, in the operation of public or private health facilities.

5. FOR PUBLIC SERVICES—The enactment by Congress of a law stating that discrimination and segregation, based on race, color, creed, or national origin, in the rendering of all public services by the national government is contrary to public policy; the enactment by the states of similar laws.

7. FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—

The enactment by Congress of legislation to accomplish the following purposes in the District:

Prohibition of discrimination and segregation, based on race, color, creed, or national origin, in all public or publicly-supported hospitals, parks, recreational facilities, housing projects, welfare agencies, penal institutions, and concessions on public property;

The prohibition of segregation in the public school system of the District of Columbia;

The establishment of a fair educational practice program directed against discrimination, based on race, color, creed, or national origin, in the admission of students to private educational institutions;

The establishment of a fair health practice program forbidding discrimination and segregation by public or private agencies, based on race, color, creed, or national origin, with respect to the training of doctors and nurses, the admission of patients to hospitals, clinics, and similar institutions, and the right of doctors and nurses to practice in hospitals;

The outlawing of restrictive covenants;

Guaranteeing equal access to places of public accommodation broadly defined, to persons of all races, colors, creeds, and national origins.

VI.

To rally the American people to the support of a continuing program to strengthen civil rights, the President's Committee recommends:

A long-term campaign of public education to inform the people of the civil rights to which they are entitled and which they owe to one another.

This is an historic document. The editors of the Chicago Defender suggest that you save it.

Nation Can't Afford

Dual Way of Life

Says Mrs. Tilly

309.12.27-47

WASHINGTON (ANP) —

"The nation can't support a

dual system of living," declared

Mrs. Milton E. Tilly, a member

of the President's Committee on

Civil Rights, at a luncheon meeting of the Women's National

WALLACE ENDORSES CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAM UNRESERVEDLY

December 19, 1947

New York, Dec. 17th--Explaining that the NAACP inquiry of November 14th had not been called to his attention until December 15th because of his absence from the city, Henry A. Wallace unreservedly endorses the recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. This endorsement was contained in a letter to Walter White made public today. A similar letter had been sent to each individual who has been mentioned as a possible presidential nominee on either major political party ticket. Replies or failures to reply have been previously published. *Press Service NAACP New York, N.Y.*

"I have commented favorably on the report in fully a dozen speeches in both the North and the South," Mr. Wallace writes. "My only adverse comment on the report has been to the effect that it underestimated the number of lynchings. I found at certain places in the South that there are many murders now taking place which really should be classified as lynchings." *12-19-47-Fri.*

The NAACP has requested Mr. Wallace to give it the cases he refers to to permit investigation of the facts.

Mr. Wallace further urged and promised continuance of his efforts to secure "prompt action with regard to the First and Fourteenth Amendments, for the purpose of ending jim crow, lynching and the poll tax, as well as to obtain a permanent FEPC. I have urged that Federal funds for education be so allocated as to assure equality of opportunity in the southern states regardless of race." *12-19-47-Fri.*

"Both parties have been guilty of failure to end filibuster in the Senate by invoking cloture, and that in the coming session of Congress," Mr. Wallace points out, "there will be an excellent opportunity for all people who really mean business to push matters with the utmost vigor so that there may be a roll call in the Senate as well as in the House." *Press Service NAACP New York, N.Y.*

At the time of going to press no replies have yet been received from Senator Robert A. Taft, General Douglas MacArthur, Congressman Joseph W. Martin, Jr. and James F. Byrnes. Nor has any reply been received directly from Governor Thomas E. Dewey whose executive assistant replied to the NAACP letter giving his opinion. The NAACP requested that Mr. Dewey himself express an opinion instead of that of his assistant.

Press Club in the Mayflower Hotel here last Friday.

Condemning separate schools, she said that "the dual school system is expensive for the States to operate and the colored man has suffered terribly from it." *12-21-47*

Describing the nation's capital as the "hope of the world, the show-window of the nation," Mrs. Tilly stated emphatically that "here there should be only the practice of democracy in every phase of life."

Wallace Urges Fight For Negro Rights

In response to an inquiry from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Wallace

endorsed the recommendations of the President's Civil Rights Committee on Negro rights. He condemned both major parties for past failures to protect the rights of Negroes. *Workes*

The President's committee report,

Wallace said, "underestimated the number of lynchings. I have found at certain places in the South that there are murders now taking place which really should be classified as lynchings." *12-22-47*

He urged "prompt action with regard to the First and 14th Amendments, for the purpose of ending Jimcrow, lynching and the poll tax, as well as to obtain a permanent FEPC." *12-22-47*

Inquiries on the same subject sent

last month by the NAACP to Robert A. Taft, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Joseph W. Martin, James F. Byrnes and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey are still unanswered.

President

1947

11

WALTER WHITE CALLS FOR POPULAR SUPPORT OF CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT November 14, 1947

Press Service of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

New York, Nov. 14th--Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, today urged a nationwide expression of approval and support to President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights for its "uncompromising report." Mr. White warned that the committee's unprecedented report, because of its tremendous scope and basic recommendations for federal implementing of democratic theory, will be denounced by "enemies of the Negro" and other elements who are reluctant to allow actual realization of these theories. The NAACP executive pointed out that it had been reliably reported that President Truman was considering the committee's report for inclusion in his state of the union address to Congress at the beginning of the second session in January and that popular support of the civil rights report "will give him greater courage."

Press Service for the NAACP

In a statement prepared at the NAACP national office in New York Mr. White declared: "Every American who approves the recommendations in the uncompromising report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights should express to President Truman and to the fifteen members of the Committee his appreciation of the great job which it has done. We can all be certain that the enemies of the Negro and other minorities will be on the job not only in writing letters denouncing the report but in using every strategem to block action on the recommendations or to cause the report to be forgotten."

"The only way these attacks can be effectively answered is by the rolling up of a tremendous mass of approval of the recommendations and insistence upon action on them. Letters from organizations and individuals to the President will cause him to know that he has the backing of a large number of Americans which will offset the messages which are pouring into the White House denouncing the forthright recommendations or urging that 'the time is not yet ripe for such changes'. It is reliably reported that the President is considering its inclusion in his state of the union address to Congress at the beginning of the second session in January. If he knows that there is popular support, it will give him greater courage."

"This should go to the members of the Committee who for eleven months worked hard and faithfully in considering a tremendous volume of material and in preparing their conclusions and recommendations. The members of the Committee and their addresses are: Mr. Charles E. Wilson, President, General Electric Corporation, 570 Lexington Avenue, New York City; Mrs. Sadie T. Alexander, Assistant City Solicitor, 40 Sth. 19 Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer, Congress of Industrial Organizations, 718 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, D.C.; President John S. Dickey, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; Morris L. Ernst, Esq., 285 Madison Avenue, New York City; Rabbi Roland G. Gittlesohn, Central Synagogue, Rockville, L.I.; Dr. Frank P. Graham, President, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.; The Most Rev. Francis J. Haas, St. Andrews Cathedral, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Mr. Charles Luckman, President, Lever Brothers, Cambridge, Mass.; Francis P. Matthews, Insurance Building, Omaha 2, Neb.; Franklin D.

ing to lead a staggering world towards sanity and safety and peace.

The point of this release is not in minimizing the importance of the issues set forth nor in underestimating the ultimate good that will come to the nation if moral courage can be mustered to implement the Civil Rights Committee Report. But the point here is to put the Negro on guard against any flagrant attempt to herd the Negro vote in 1948. A government that has stubbornly refused to enact anti-lynching measures; that suffered the FEPC to die ingloriously; that has back-tracked on the anti-poll tax proposals need not be counted on to implement the Civil Rights Committee's report.

The report boiled down is just one more of those "bell-the-cat" reports that mean little or nothing because when the matter of belling the cat gets serious, nobody can be found for the worthy undertaking. Mr. Truman and his Civil Rights Committee know that to pass the legislation advised would bring on such social and economic ca-

Roosevelt, Jr., Esq., 598 Madison Avenue, New York City, The Right Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, Presiding Bishop Episcopal Church, Boston, Mass.; Mr. Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. M. E. Tilley, Secretary, Department of Social Relations, Women's Society of Christian Service, Methodist Church, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Director Phelps-Stokes Fund, 101 Park Avenue, New York City.

— by —
Gordon B. Hancock

The Truman Civil Rights Committee Report Called Merely A Gesture, "A Camel To Be Swallowed While The Nation Is Straining At A Gnat"

It is from this writer to disparage the sentiments expressed by the President's Civil Rights Committee. In fact that committee expressed the sentiments of all men of Christian and democratic frame of mind. It is a pity that the committee's report could not be detached from political motives and considerations. But it is becoming more and more certain that Mr. Truman is playing the game of politics with an astuteness that would make his political godfather, Pendergrast, smile with pride.

Sat. 11-15-47
Mr. Truman is going after the nation is still straining at ing and forces of law and order now we are asked to swallow the 1948 nomination with a de-the gnats of social justice. The in South Carolina set the lynch the camel of blotting out at termination and forthrightness four Negroes who were recent-ers free. Still more recently alone full swoop all race discrimination demands serious respect.ly lynched in Georgia have not attempt was made in North Carolina to lynch a Negro who Every decent citizen of the Civil Rights Committee was lynched more recently in was fortunate to escape and country knows that these wrongs serves finely; but as a solution South Carolina has had insult North Carolina could not get need righting; that they cry be of current problems it is mere-added to the disgrace of his ap indictment against self-confore the tribunal of decency fessed members of the would beand righteousness for redress; lynching party. These are merethat unredressed they hamper us gnats of justice over which ain our high and holy task of try-

More than a score of lynchings

tyclism that the nation would be convulsed. Not that the things recommended are unnecessary or impossible but because there is a tacit understanding between the North and South that the South will not be greatly affronted by the North on questions of color.

Sat. 11-15-47

These are ugly facts but they are important just because they are ugly. The fact is, the white North cares more for the feelings of the white South than it does for those of the minority Negro South. Personally, I would like to see the laws enacted and every measure put into effect. My reason is now and it has long been, I believe that the United States will stand for far more justice for the Negro than is outwardly apparent. In other words, I believe that the public opinion is far in advance of the laws and that public opinion would support laws we are too "careful" and too "timid" to enact.

It was once thought that public opinion would not sanction a Negro in organized baseball, but it did. It was once thought that the public would not sanction a Negro champion of the world; but it did. It was once thought that Georgia would not sanction decent government that disdained the white supremacy "red herring"—but it did. This nation is not as bad as we at times imagine. The enactment of certain laws would give the better element of the nation a chance. But these "bell-the-cat" committee reports don't solve anything but publicize necessities.

THE HORIZON

President's Committee Did Better Job Than Negroes Might Have Done

By P. L. PRATTIS

BEFORE now you will have read that report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights is a bold, historic, precedent-setting document. It is therefore unnecessary for this writer to stress what is obvious to so many people.

What we do wish to emphasize, however, as a gauge by which to measure the daring extent of the report is our feeling that it is a much bet-



ter document, from the standpoint of how it faces the problems of civil rights and the directness of its recommendations than any group of representative Negroes themselves would have devised. I do not mean that Negroes could not have drawn up just as intelligent a document from all standpoints.

Another thought: if all the I mean that in any representative group of Negroes, drawn from North and South, from business, education, law, the church, and so forth, there would not have been found able men who would not have thought it wise at this time to spell out the evils deriving from the denial of civil rights as the President's Committee has done, nor would they have thought it wise and useful to make some of the sweeping recommendations.

Sat. 11-15-47

IN OTHER WORDS, I believe that the President's Committee of thirteen whites and two Negroes acted more frankly and more boldly than fifteen representative Negroes would have acted.

They acted more frankly and more boldly than Negroes would have acted yesterday. That does not mean that they acted more frankly and more boldly than Negroes will act tomorrow.

The essential significance of the report of the President's Committee, even if no single recommendation is ever carried out, is that these fifteen men and women, thirteen of them white, could at this time deliver themselves of such a sweeping indictment, see the existing evils so clearly and, despite obvious differences in point of view among themselves, come finally, after what must have been tremendous conflict in mind and heart, to put their signatures to such a document.

Yesterday, Negroes might have had some doubts as to how honest white people could be in facing the problem, as to how they were willing to go in the printed word toward advocating remedies. Today and tomorrow, no such doubt exists. The President's Committee has dissipated it. Negroes know now that there are whites of distinction, wealth and power who are willing to go **ALL THE WAY.** All the way where? All the way in the direction of living up to the American tradition, ideal and bill of rights.

The report of the Committee is a prick to the conscience of faint-hearted, prudent (?) Negroes. It tells them they don't have to compromise on principle, no matter how necessary it may be to modify methods.

IT IS BECAUSE of this lesson the report has for Negroes, that it should be read by every Negro, particularly those 35 years of age and over, those who are fearful that the white man is only willing to give them so much. Churches, insurance organizations, fraternal societies, societies of groups, will help the older Negro to mental freedom if they can get him to read this report. Another thought: if all the recommendations in the report were put into effect tomorrow, they would not spell real freedom to Negroes. They would represent a generous concession from the dominant white majority to Negroes and other minorities. The Negro must continue to fight for and must win the rights and freedoms covered by the recommendations. Only when he has so obtained them will he be secure in their possession and will whites feel that he has hold of them in such a way that they cannot take them back.



Although the initial shock and potency of the report from the President's Committee on Civil Rights has assumed a more unemotional status, the full weight of the document will simmer for many months.

For never before in the history of civil rights in this country has a group of people so fearlessly and dramatically presented the cause and cure for problems among minority peoples.

Charles E. Wilson, chairman of the committee, has carved an impenetrable niche for himself in the annals of fighters for rights. He has led them through the alleys of subtle prejudices, subconscious grievances and oftentimes downright opposition to full and uncompromising racial and religious freedom.

He has submitted to the President of the United States a document that reaffirms and gives timely strength to the very core of democracy: "All men are created equal."

No matter how much dust the report might collect in congressional archives, no matter how often it might be tossed about, how little official attention it might garner, Charles E. Wilson

and his committee will have raised the brows of America and made her see how terribly confused she is in her thinking on civil rights.

Charles E. Wilson and his committee have brought the whole problem down to the terms of the uneducated, the uninformed and have shown by the most powerful means that American leadership is woefully lacking when it insists that civil rights and all they imply are complex matters, to be discussed, debated and "put into committee."

For the leadership of Charles E. Wilson and the monumental document he and his committee have evolved, The Pittsburgh Courier salutes him.



CHARLES E. WILSON
... champion of rights

Education For Achieving Civil Rights For All

REACTION to the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights leaves no doubt that while the report had a powerful moral effect on United States public opinion there exists a powerful resistance to the objectives sought. Much confusion clouds the minds of many as to the facts of the immediacy urged in the report. Still more confusion mars the thinking of many who believe that no civil rights should be sought if racial segregation and discrimination by law are to be removed by law. Still others would permanently deny civil rights to minorities if prevailing customs (prejudices) are to be mitigated or changed by new laws, or by enforcement of existing laws.

Such a body of opposition to the major aims of the committee's report

will have the effect of destroying them unless there is carried on, under proper guidance, a systematic study of the evils in American democracy which the recommendations of the committee are intended to correct.

Such an educational project should be initiated by churches, fraternal societies, lodges, labor unions, business organizations, as well as organizations engaged exclusively in promoting human rights.

It would be too optimistic to expect all of the findings of the President's committee to meet the approval of all Americans at once, or all of its recommendations to be sympathetically received by a majority of the American people. It is reasonable to suppose, however, that a thorough understanding of the diabolical aspects of some of the committee's findings, and a continuous ventilation of the menace which they pose for Americans as a whole will ultimately bring the needed reforms.

For study purposes copies of the full text of the report may be procured from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at one dollar per copy.

THE TRUE TEST

Any doubts some of us may have had regarding the true merit of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights which was submitted to the President last week are now resolved. We know that the report and its recommendations are for the best interests of the nation because the acting Governor of Mississippi is violently against them. Said he:

"History shows that where any nation has not practiced segregation of races, but allowed miscegenation and amalgamation of races, the custom has already resulted in the destruction of the nation that permitted this crime against nature."

"We of the South know this and ask the aid of all decent white people of this country to help stem this concerted effort on the part of misguided people to foster a scheme advocated by outside interference and meddlers to destroy this nation."

"This committee is supposed to have two Southern members, but their approval of this recommendation (to abolish segregation) discloses that they are not nurtured in Southern ideals or in true American ideals. Rather, it reveals them either as traitors or as dupes to the South and to the United States."

Truman Civil Liberties Chicago, Ill. Defender Group Probes Army Bias

Sat. 4-5-47

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The President's Committee on Civil Rights has voted to probe discrimination in the armed forces of the United States, it was learned this week.

The decision was reached at the regular semi-monthly meeting of the committee held at headquarters here on March 19 and 20.

The probe will be a part of the overall investigation ordered by President Truman on the extent to which civil rights are being denied American citizens because of race, color, creed, religion or national origin.

Meanwhile, it was learned this week through usually reliable sources that the United States Navy has advised the House Armed Forces Committee Chairman, Walter G. Andrews, Republican of New York, that it will interpose no objections to a bill (H. R. 279) introduced by Rep. Adam C. Powell, Democrat of New York "to prohibit segregation in the armed forces in the United States after the termination of hostilities in the present war and the beginning of mobilization." (Although the shooting war is ended, the official end of the war must be proclaimed by Congress. So far it has taken no such action.)

Sat. 4-5-47
The Navy's support for Powell's bill is said to be based on the assertion that the bill represents no departure from present Navy policy.

Equal Facilities For Negroes In South Described As Myth

BY FRANK E. TAYLOR

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30—(AP)—Equal facilities for Negroes under Southern segregation is described by the president's committee on civil rights as "one of the outstanding myths of American history."

The committee, which recommended that racial segregation be eliminated from American life, said segregation "has become the cornerstone of the elaborate structure of discrimination against some American citizens."

Theoretically, it added, the system simply duplicates educational, recreational and other public services, "according facilities to the two races which are 'separate but equal.'"

"It is almost always true that while indeed separate, these facilities are far from equal," the report said.

EVEN IF FACILITIES were equal, the committee said, "no argument or rationalization can alter this basic fact: A law which forbids a group of American citizens to associate with other citizens in the ordinary course of daily living creates inequality by imposing a caste status on the minority group."

The committee said the separate but equal doctrine has failed in three "important respects."

"First, it is inconsistent with the fundamental equalitarianism of the American way of life in that it marks groups with the brand of inferior status."

"Secondly, where it has been followed, the results have been separate and unequal facilities for minority peoples."

"Finally, it has kept people apart despite incontrovertible evidence that an environment favorable to civil rights is fostered whenever groups are permitted to live and work together."

"There is no adequate defense of segregation."

CONCERNING ANOTHER racial relations problem, the committee said lynching remains "one of the most serious threats to the civil rights of Americans." The threat of lynching, it said, "always hangs over the head of the Southern Negro" as a "dreadful burden."

In addition to recommending federal anti-lynching law, the committee said constant scrutiny by federal authorities of "troublesome areas" for lynchings, race riots, election irregularities and other civil rights violations would do

much to reduce such lawlessness. It recommended the civil rights section of the Department of Justice be strengthened to do more of this work. (Atty. Gen. Clark Monday announced he is enlarging the section.)

Although much of the report dealt with problems of the South, the committee cited "failures" in other sections to observe the rights of minorities.

IT SAID: "Legally-enforced segregations has been largely limited to the South. But segregation is also widely prevalent in the North, particularly in housing, and in hotel and restaurant accommodations."

"The existence of residential restrictions in many Northern cities has had discriminatory effects on Negro education."

"Arizona, California, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, New Mexico and Oregon forbid or severely restrict land ownership by ineligible aliens. . . . The bar to land holding—the 'alien land law'—most seriously impairs the alien's economic opportunities."

"In many of our Northern educational institutions enrollment of Jewish student seems never to exceed certain fixed points and there is never more than a token enrollment of Negroes."

"MANY AREAS, particularly large cities in the North and West, such as Chicago, Cleveland, Washington, D. C., and Los Angeles, are widely affected" by restrictive agreements of home owners not to sell or lease to an "undesirable."

Under the heading of "police brutality," the report said "much of the illegal official action which has been brought to the attention of the committee is centered in the South."

"There is evidence of lawless police action against whites and Negroes alike, but the dominant pattern is that of race prejudice."

The committee said there are cases on file in which officers "seem to be 'trigger happy' where weak or poor persons are concerned."

Concerning schools, the report said whenever federal grant-in-aid should be used to support the maintenance of separate schools for white and Negro is an issue that the country must soon face.

End To Racial Segregation Now Asked At Capital

Civil Rights Group Urges Anti-Lynching, Anti-Poll Tax Laws

BY MAX HILL

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29—(AP)—A committee appointed by President Truman proposed today that racial segregation be wiped out of American life "now."

Mr. Truman's committee on civil rights, headed by President Charles E. Wilson of the General Electric Company, made 35 recommendations on explosive subjects in the whole civil rights field.

It urged the enactment of federal anti-lynching, anti-poll tax, and fair employment practice laws—three issues which practice laws—gress with bitter struggles.

It recommended that Congress and the state legislature outlaw segregation and discrimination based on race, color, creed, or national origin, in such places as trains, buses, schools, hospitals, theaters, hotels, restaurants, the armed services, and private employment.

It proposed that the states outlaw "restrictive covenants" by which property owners bind themselves not to sell or lease to "undesirables."

THE 15-MEMBER COMMITTEE said these measures and many others, are needed to bring the nation nearer to full realization of "the American way" of freedom and equality.

"We need to guarantee the same rights to every person regardless of who he is, where he lives, or what his racial, religious or national origins are," the report said.

It declared "the time is now," for three reasons: Moral, economic and international.

The committee's view of the international aspect was that "the United States is not so strong, the final triumph of the democratic ideal is not so inevitable that we can ignore what the world thinks of us or our record."

Concerning segregation—the separation of a minority from other people—the committee said the "separate but equal" idea, as when a state has one school system for white persons and another for Negroes, "is one of the outstanding myths of American history" because:

"It is almost always true that while indeed separate, these facilities are far from equal."

The committee criticized, without naming names, what it called "irresponsible opportunists who make it a practice to attack every person or group with whom they disagree as 'Communists.'"

IT SAID "we cannot let these abuses deter us from the legitimate exposing of real Communists and real Fascists," and added that "the same zeal" must be shown in defending our democracy against one group as against the other.

The committee said "public excitement about 'Communists'" has gone far beyond good judgment and calmness, and "a state of near-hysteria now threatens to inhibit the freedom of genuine democrats."

Concerning federal employees, the committee said the government has a duty to dismiss disloyal workers, but their civil rights must be protected, and procedures should be worked out for this protection.

The 178-page report was made public by the White House.

President Truman set up the committee last Dec. 5 to study how present laws and governmental agencies may be "strengthened and improved to safeguard the civil rights of the people."

In the group are two industrialists, two labor leaders, two college presidents, four church leaders, four lawyers, and the director of an educational fund.

Two of the 15 members live in the South: Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, and Mrs. M. E. Tilly, of Atlanta, Women's Society of Christian Service, Methodist Church.

MUCH OF THE REPORT deals with the South and with the Negroes of America. But the committee said the other regions also have their "interferences" with the rights of individuals.

Examples of what the committee considers violations of civil rights were discussed at length:

Six lynchings in 1946; police brutality; "unfair" court trials of persons from minority groups; the wartime mass evacuation of Japanese-Americans from the West Coast; racial discrimination in the armed services; barring of some alien groups from American citizenship; denial of voting rights.

The report said all the recommendations were a "general consensus" of the committee except that on two matters where there was a "substantial division of views." These were:

1. The committee recommended that the federal government refuse to grant funds to any state government or other agency—for public housing or hospitals, for example—

if there is to be segregation in the use of the money.

A MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE, while favoring an end of segregation as an "ultimate goal," opposed making this a requirement for the giving of funds.

2. The committee recommended that the states enact laws banning discrimination in admitting students to the public and private schools. Church-supported schools would be exempted. A "substantial" minority of the committee was opposed to such laws.

The committee said federal and state laws should be enacted to prohibit discrimination in employment.

Concerning poll taxes, the committee said the seven remaining states which require their payment before a person can vote ought to abolish such taxes themselves, but if they don't do it "promptly," the federal government should pass a national law.

The poll tax states are Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

When it comes to discriminating against Negroes, President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights asserted today, the nation's capital itself "is a graphic illustration of a failure of democracy."

Washington for Negroes, the committee declared in a report to the president, "is not just the nation's capital," but "the point at which all public transportation into the South becomes 'Jim Crow.'"

"If he stops in Washington, Negro may dine like other men in the Union Station, but as soon as he steps out into the capital, he leaves such democratic practices behind."

WITH VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS, he is refused service at a downtown restaurant, he may not attend a downtown movie or play and he has to go into the poorer section of the city to find a night

where the federal government has made a few independent advances, as in federal employment and the use of federal recreation facilities, racial segregation is "CAPITAL TREATMENT OF NEGROES," the committee said, "not only humiliates colored citizens, but is a source of considerable embarrassment" to the "many dark-

children exceeds enrollment by 20 per cent while in schools for Negroes enrollment exceeds capacity by 8 per cent. Except where the federal government has made a few independent advances, as in federal employment and the use of federal recreation facilities, racial segregation is "CAPITAL TREATMENT OF NEGROES," the committee said, "not only humiliates colored citizens, but is a source of considerable embarrassment" to the "many dark-

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"Inconsistencies are evident: Con- is owned by the daughters of the American Revolution."

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Capital Says Civil Rights Group, Is Where Discrimination Begins

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skinned foreign visitors. The report explained: *Wed. 10-29-47*

"Foreign officials are often mistaken for American Negroes and refused food, lodging and entertainment. However, once it is established that they are not Americans, they are accommodated."

Congress, the president's Civil Rights Committee said, should establish self-government for the District of Columbia and that the constitution should be amended to give district residents suffrage in presidential elections and representation in Congress.

TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS

Although the editors of most Negro newspapers recognize the prime necessity for implementation of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, they do not hesitate to ascribe to it a value all in itself because of its character and force. The editor of The CHICAGO DEFENDER thus describes the report as:

... a call to the American people to accept the challenge of ruthless racism which has for so long crippled our democracy and reduced some citizens to a state not far removed from savagery.

"It is a call to freedom which must be heeded," the editor continues, and adds: *Sat. 11-15-*

"We suffer from no illusions regarding either the magnitude of the task that must be done to achieve 'freedom from fear' or the willingness of the Congress and the administration to act upon the facts before them. We do believe, however, that this report gives some evidence that our cause is marching on."

LIKEWISE DOES the editor of The JOURNAL and GUIDE pay tribute to the forthrightness of the report, commenting in respect to the Committee:

"It has not equivocated. It has urged action at every major point where our practices, be they the consequence of Federal or State action or inaction, are at variance with our vaunted democratic principles. It has provided the blueprint for putting democracy into practice. The extent to which its recommendations are adopted will test the sincerity of this Nation's people."

11-15-47
AND THE EDITOR of The AMSTERDAM NEWS:

"The work of the President's Committee is a move in the right direction. Mr. Truman and the administration, the Congress, national organizations and the moulders of public opinion have an inescapable obligation in carrying the fight for full civil rights for minorities to victory."

"... the fight for civil rights is the number one job of all American minorities—Jews,

Poles, Catholics, Orientals, Negroes, Mexicans and others. Our leadership should unite its efforts with the efforts of other groups, so that a united and intelligent campaign can be waged to remove every vestige of racism and religious bigotry from our country."

...
ACCORDING TO the editor of The AFRO-AMERICAN, the report, "Easily stands out as one of the most significant documents of all time. The ... statement may well become a sort of Magna Charter for democracy."

The editor concludes: "It is up to Congress and to the several State governments to follow through from this point on. This is just another way of saying that the responsibility for securing these rights is that of every individual citizen. It is a challenge and a duty which we can ill afford to ignore—on even for a

To Secure These Rights

AMONG other qualifications the President's committee of fifteen on civil rights has an enviable amount of drive. For in less than a year after their appointment these citizens have issued a 175-page report which comprises a comprehensive survey of segregation, discrimination and second-class citizenship throughout the nation, and sets forth feasible organizational, legislative and educational remedies. The President's committee has tackled head-on the principal obstacles to the realization of the American democratic ideal. *Commonwealth, New York, N.Y.*

Their diagnosis is particularly illuminating in that it confronts the problem on three levels—moral, economic and international. Voicing their belief in "the eternal worth of every child of God," the committee first call attention to the "moral dry rot" resulting from the vast gulf between certain realities on the American scene and our ideals on the security of the person, freedom of conscience and expression, equality of opportunity, citizenship and its privileges. That the denial in practice of any of these basic rights leads to a lesser sense of moral obligation on the part of victimized minorities is also indisputable.

The economic argument is a convincing one. Discrimination in employment, restrictive housing covenants and the resultant existence of depressed classes drags down the whole national economic level—reducing demand for goods and production and employment, increasing relief rolls, crime, disease, fire hazards and a debilitating sense of stress between races and classes. On the international level discrimination within the United States against the darker races has worldwide repercussions. It hampers us in our struggle with the totalitarians, prevents us from enjoying the good opinion of the peoples of the world and prevents American institutions and

ideals from serving as guides to liberty and prosperity. The three-fold argument is unanswerable.

To wipe out these stains on our national shield the report is most specific. In general it favors a combination of persistent public suasion with drastic organizational and legislative changes. Among the first of these is the building up of the Civil Rights sections of the Department of Justice and the FBI, the creation of state enforcement agencies, of standing committees of the House and Senate and of a Civil Rights Committee directly responsible to the President. On the legislative side are proposed enactments against lynching, police brutality, involuntary servitude, poll taxes, white primaries, restrictive covenants and the like. The report demands the ending of discrimination and segregation in the armed forces, in schools and colleges and in the nation's capital. It calls for full citizenship for the inhabitants of Guam and American Samoa and compensation for the Japanese-Americans for their recent evacuation, spoliation and detention. It even proposes special systematic registration for propaganda groups which might abuse the democratic freedoms. The report obviously means business. The question is whether the generality of Americans will do anything about it. *Fri*

Although the daily papers stress the courage involved in issuing such a statement, the committee are more deserving of praise on other counts—their grasp of the problem and the deep-seated obstacles to its solution and their willingness to follow out the logic of the inquiry. But what other nation today would actually publish such a glaring exposé of its faults? *11-14-47*

Endurance and courage are required, however, if this report is to be anything beyond a magnificent national gesture. Unless a sizable and influential number of citizens persist unremittingly at it in their personal and professional lives, keeping the demand for justice and security of person alive in Washington, with state and local authorities and among their fellowmen, the report will be without tangible result. This is a peculiarly Christian task. To quote the report, it is primarily and continuously the responsibility of "private organizations and private individuals who are in a position to educate and shape public opinion."

An Insult To Negroes

Daily World Atlanta Ga.
From The Lighthouse And Informer (SNS)

Terming the report and recommendations of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights a gross insult to the southern people, Rep. L. Mendel Rivers of Charleston, up for re-election next year and also a possible candidate for the seat of Senator Burnet R. Maybank, ventures to say that proposals in the Committee report are not what respectable colored and white people want. *Fri 11-14-47*
In plain words, Rep. Rivers is saying that first-class

It is an abominable outrage against Negroes that such men, through power of office, deliberately misrepresent the wishes and thoughts of our people. If Rep. Rivers wishes to speak for Negroes, then let him first see that they vote. In no other way can he know their thoughts.

citizenship for American Negroes is not what the respectable colored and white people in the South want. Rep. Rivers, advocate of white supremacy, who now threatens to begin a general revolution in the South because of the proposals, may speak for some of the white people; maybe the majority of them—we have no way of knowing and hold no interest in the facts here. But we are certain that he, nor any others advocating "government by white men," in or out of office is capable and qualified to speak for Negroes. We Negroes have not a single representative in congress or the general assembly. We could vote for none of them and we elected none. They are products of the white primary system, which excludes Negroes. But one of them can speak for us.

NATION'S CAPITAL - By - Louis Lautier For the NNPA

President Truman Should First Take Action On Major Recommendations Of His Civil Rights Committee Where His Authority Is Unquestioned

Noted, Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights contains thirty-five major recommendations. Of that number, twenty-three call for congressional action, seven for state legislation, one for action by the Congress and the executive branch of the government, one for administrative action by the heads of state police, one by the permanent Commission on Civil Rights and the Joint Standing Committee on Civil Rights in the Congress which the committee recommended be established, and one for action by the permanent Commission.

If the adage that charity begins at home may be applied to leadership for bringing the United States closer to the goal of human freedom and equality it would appear that the President should first take action in those matters where his authority is unquestioned.

One recommendation calls for congressional action to end race and religious discrimination under the administration of the armed forces. Legislation in this regard is only necessary if the President, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army, Navy and Air Force will not act. The President as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy certainly has the authority to order the abolition of segregation and discrimination in those services.

(The Air Force is omitted because there is no provision in the constitution making him the Commander-in-Chief of the Air Force.) Moreover, the Secretary of Defense, or the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force may order the abolition of segregation and discrimination in all three services, and the other Secretaries in their respective services.

The President may have federal grants-in-aid to the states screened to determine whether, in those states where race segregation is maintained by law, an equitable share of such grants are actually being received by those segments of the colored population which they are intended to aid.

He might have the government to set the example in the matter of fair employment practice. First, he can direct the Civil Service Commission and the executive departments to hire and promote workers solely on the basis of merit and without distinction as to race or religion. Then, he him-

self could set an example by making Presidential appointments on the same basis, or on the basis of the political services a person has rendered or on the size of his donation to the Democratic party.

He may require contractors with the federal government to employ and upgrade their workers without regard to race or religion. He can require hospitals and religious discrimination under the administration of the Department to admit doctors and nurses for training and for practice.

He can direct the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to require that all public or publicly-supported hospitals, parks, recreational facilities, housing projects, welfare agencies, penal institutions and concessions on public property cease practicing race discrimination and segregation. There is no requiring such segregation in Washington.

There are other recommendations of the committee which may be put into effect by the President or cabinet members without congressional action. But if action were taken in the specific matters pointed out, it would be an incentive to the Congress to follow his leadership.

NEED NOT WAIT FOR LAWS:

Truman Can Order Some Changes Made

Sat. 11-15-47

By LOUIS LAUTIER

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights contains 35 major recommendations, 23 of which call for Congressional action and 7 for

State legislation.

One urges action by the Congress and the executive branch of the Government; one, administrative action by the heads of state police; one, by the permanent Commission on Civil Rights and the Joint Standing Committee on Civil Rights in the Congress which the committee recommended be established, and one, action by the permanent Commission.

In the effort to bring the United States closer to the goal of human freedom and equality, it would appear that the President should first take action in those matters where his authority is unquestioned.

Others Empowered to Act

One recommendation calls for Congressional action to end race and religious discrimination and segregation in the armed forces.

Such legislation is necessary only if the President, the Secretary of Defense or the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force will not act. The President, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy certainly has the authority to order the abolition of segregation and discrimination in those services.

(The Air Force is omitted because there is no provision in the Constitution making him the Commander-in-Chief of the Air Force).

Moreover, the Secretary of Defense, or the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force may order the abolition of segregation and discrimination—the Defense Secretary in all three services and the other Secretaries in their respective services.

Can Act on Educational Funds

The President may have Federal grants-in-aid to the States screened to determine whether, in those states where race segregation is maintained by law, equitable shares of such grants are actually being received by the colored population.

He can require the U.S. Office of Education and the Agriculture Department to see that States comply with existing Federal law requiring an equitable distribution of Federal funds between white and colored land-grant colleges in Southern States.

He might have the Government to set the example in the matter of fair employment practice. First, he can direct the Civil Service Commission and the executive departments to hire and promote workers solely on the basis of merit and without discrimination as to race, color or religion.

His Appointments Involved

Then, he himself could set an example by making Presidential appointments on the same basis, or on the basis of the political services a person has rendered or on the size of his donation to the Democratic party.

He may require contractors

with the Federal Government to employ and upgrade their workers without regard to race or religion.

Decisions of the Comptroller General uphold this authority of the Government to specify the terms and conditions under which it will do business with anyone.

He can require hospitals under the administration of the Army, Navy, Veterans Administration and the Interior Department to admit doctors and nurses for training and practice.

Can Intervene in Capital

He can direct the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to require that all public or publicly-supported hospitals, parks, recreational facilities, housing projects, welfare agencies, penal institutions and concessions on public property cease practicing race discrimination and segregation.

There is no law requiring such segregation in Washington.

He can also direct the District Commissioners to hire and promote employees of the District Government solely on the basis of merit and without regard to race, color or religion.

There are other recommendations of the committee which may be put into effect by the President or Cabinet members without Congressional action. If action were taken in the specific matters pointed out, it would be an incentive to the Congress to follow his leadership.

The Editors' Roundtable

The Civil Liberties Report

Editors record only passing references to what the report terms great progress has been made. Nowhere else President Truman's Committee on Civil Liberties as that Indians of so many races, creeds and nations should receive the vote and, in national origins, been brought to effect that native Communists and together in so brief a period as in our Fascists be required to register as American melting pot. And now such. They plunge straight to the here else have so many ever enjoyed the blessings of liberty. central recommendations: (1) Anti-lynching law, (2) Anti-poll tax law, (3) Fair Employment Practices But it is responsible for a great deal of the progress so far made. Southern editors stand solid, and toward protection of civil rights. It others join them to form a sub-legislation dangerous to "evolution" by education and understanding in the basic issues. A very sizable minority, however, favors such laws "to create circumstances ity, while favoring the end of permitting development for civil segregation as an 'ultimate goal,' Em-liberties and responsibilities." Emphasis is general that the problem (from joint Federal-State supported activities) as a club, and a substantial minority opposed state laws compelling abolition of separate schools. No doubt the majority realize fully that law cannot always realize fly in the face of long New York World-Telegram (Ind): "The committee focused most of attention on the bad side of the overnight fly in the face of long

custom, but decided to go the whole way to set up a standard of strict adherence to principle, in the belief that such a position will hasten the day when principle will prevail." Washington (D. C.) Post (Ind.): "To argue, as some do, that education and evolution should be left alone to work some miraculous solution of prejudice is to deny all the lessons of experience. . . . To Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution (Dem.): "tolerance, like temperance, is not amenable to legislation. The situation in our re-union is were only by reason of the

more even distribution of whites and Negroes than we find on the east coast in respect to whites and Japanese and Chinese, in the Southwest in respect to Mexicans and whites, and in the larger cities of the North where the percentage of foreign-born is heavy. Even now New York City is struggling under a heavy influx of Puerto Ricans, who, incidentally, are American citizens."

San Diego (Calif.) Daily Journal (Ind. Dem.): "The Committee nowhere invokes any ideology more foreign than the documents traveling today aboard the Freedom Train—there is basis in the Constitution and its Amendments, in the Declaration, in the Gettysburg Address, for every major point that the Committee makes. . . . By an epidemic of default we have been turning our American freedom of opinion over to the agitators of both extremes. . . . We have left the forum to Earl Browder and J. Parnell Thomas. . . . Why not accept this Committee's invitation to try speaking out like Americans again?"

Baltimore (Md.) Sun (Ind. Dem.): "On segregation and discrimination the Federal Constitution is of course quite silent. . . . The Constitution-makers were setting up a limited form of political government. . . . They knew that matters like segregation and job discrimination were not explicitly political, but tended into the social and the economic. . . . there is grave doubt that the Constitution would support a Federal ouster of the states from the field of poll-tax and lynching legislation."

—Edited by James Galloway

RALPH MCGILL

A Couple And Some Clippings Constitution

On the day I sat down to read in full the report of the President's Civil Rights Committee, a man and his wife came in to see me.

They were of Anglo-Saxon stock. They were Georgia born. They had little education. They were without work, without savings, and were involved in housing troubles, imposed upon them by some ruthless shrew of a woman who owned the dismal dwelling in which they lived. *Atlanta, Ga.*

They were good, honest people. They had worked hard and were willing to work within the limited skills which the man possessed. The man had a record of sobriety. They were mightily discouraged, were about to be put into the street, had been sleeping on the floor, together with the 75-year-old mother of the wife, for two weeks in a room heated only by a small oil stove. Both had farm backgrounds, and both were wondering if they should not try to retreat from the city and go back to the farm. It was a wistful, escapist psychology, easily identified by the most amateur of psychologists. That morning they had had a cup of coffee. The last 15 cents had gone for a sandwich for the aged mother who was sick and alone on a pallet in the bare room where they still were staying. *Wed. 11-5-47*

Clippings

The Civil Rights Committee Report was not all I had. I had cut from the papers some clippings. One dealt with the two members of the National Real Estate Board who had damned Sen. Robert Taft for writing a public housing bill as a

Communist following the party line and destroying democracy by arguing for public housing.

There was another which called the members of the Committee, on Civil Rights Communists and I had a number of letters saying the report was a Communist plot to bring about social equality in the South. Another spoke of the Communist effort to smash the traditions of the South and promised to wallow in blood up to his umbilicus before he would allow it. And so on.

All that sort bilge was before me as I sat talking to the two native Americans, of Anglo-Saxon stock, who had tried hard and lived as best they could according to their lights, and who were up against it to the point of being hungry and about out of a place to lay their heads—even on the floor.

I knew, too, they represented many others in a like condition, who had done the best they could with the poor tools of mind and education which had been their lot.

Thoughts

I kept thinking that maybe I really ought to read them the speeches by the two realtors who had called Sen. Taft a Communist. I was sure it would cheer them up to learn that employment in the United States is at a high peak, that the cost of living is going higher because there is a demand for short consumer goods, that whatever happened to them, their social equality status was safe, and that this was a country where we needed to return to rugged individualism where every family took its own care of dear old grandma, out there on a pallet eating a sandwich bought with the last 15 cents in the family, without resorting to the social agencies supported by the Community Fund, to which people are not responding in the necessary amount.

But, I didn't. I spent two hours trying to get a sober, hard-working fellow a job. I finally found a place that might take him if his skill is what he said, and thinks it to be. But, his furniture has been in storage since the shrew that is driving them out insisted on it and they can't find another place and they can't pay the \$30 owed on it if they do—if he gets the job. *Wed. 11-5-47*

Enemies

Sometimes I think that the worst enemy this country has, worse even than the Communists, is the fear that so many people seem to have that making this a better country for more of its people may cost them a little bit more of what they have . . . may make them just a little less comfortable. . . .

The kind that won't support the Community Fund to care for our own . . . the kind who damned Roosevelt for creating "class distinctions," meaning, I suppose, he made the poor aware of the fact they were not getting a square deal . . . the kind who won't give to European relief because it means they can't buy all they want to buy . . . but who argue we've got our own wretched ones . . . but who still cut down their Community Chest subscription . . . the kind who fight to keep new industries out of small towns because it will upset their own labor supply and bring about competition in wages . . . it is a story that runs on and on.

I wondered what would happen to the couple in my office, sitting there with just an early morning cup of coffee in their bellies, and it lunch time, if they and others like them were subjected to Communist propaganda promising a house, food and work? What does the American way mean to them?

The President's committee tried to cut the cloth to fit many patterns. It is a report with Christian aims, just as the Bible is a good book. But it can't be enforced, even with troops. It still has to be accomplished by improving the human heart. It will harden resistance and widen the gulf. *Wed. 11-5-47*

The social equality talk has always seemed fantastic to me . . . does one have to associate socially with a Chinese, a Mexican, a Negro or the next door neighbor if one does not wish to do so? The truth is that greed doesn't wish the depressed minorities to have a chance at being good Americans. And the result of it is that a lot of good Anglo-Saxons are held down in the ditch along with the minorities.

And some day the Lord's going to set this world on fire.

PURSUIT OF DEMOCRACY

Pittsburgh, Pa.
By MARJORIE MCKENZIE

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

THE day the report of the appointment with the vice president of a company that publishes several well-known slick

Report of President's Committee on Civil Rights Far Exceeds Expectations

Courier

to this important document than that the publication of To Se- and inept and probably would its recommendations about seg- cures These Rights is an event of be issued, despite the efforts of "Yes," and went on with the dis- great political and social signifi- known friends on the Commit- ment document and it cannot be Well, the gossips and the ex- perts had better "sit down and read and study this report with great care" along with Presi- dent Truman, whose lap it is warping right now.

THE THING THAT seems re- markable every time it happens is that whenever a cross-section of Americans are asked to con- sider problems in race relations they always come out with the right answers, not a searching document like To Secure These Rights to be sure, but always a creditable statement, far superior to the pattern or the appar- ent sentiment of their cities or States. Perhaps something of this observation is made of this observation somewhere in it may be that will open the door to a new social action. To the whole towns or States into the hands of ten or twenty, everybody going on

Second, it is a complete blue- print for legislative and execu- tive action on Federal and State levels. Third, it is better than any program that has been con- structed or unified up to this point by public or private agen- cies or by any writer in the field. There is no question that the report exceeds the expectations of those who are the soothsayers in this field. The gossip in Wash- ington at the time the Commit- tee was appointed was sharp and skeptical. It was said that there were too many Republicans on the Committee, a fact that was bound to prove politically em- barrassing and unmanageable only in one way or another. In addition, the Committee picked a staff that for the most part was unknown in race re- lations, the result of which was

FOR SUDDENLY a great wear- iness 'born of years of dissimila- tion about the nature of the prob- lem, had come between me and one more effort to make it easier levels. The essence, the bur- structed or unified up to this point by public or private agen- cies or by any writer in the field. There is no question that the report exceeds the expectations of those who are the soothsayers in this field. The gossip in Wash- ington at the time the Commit- tee was appointed was sharp and skeptical. It was said that there were too many Republicans on the Committee, a fact that was bound to prove politically em- barrassing and unmanageable only in one way or another. In addition, the Committee picked a staff that for the most part was unknown in race re- lations, the result of which was

might help. If not, then ho handle the control group. While we are aglow with excellence of the report, not forget about implement- There, in the report, is a thing—what the Negro w what America must have. We wrest it, any part of it, Congress, from the Georgia legislature, is the question. How do we, as Lord Coke put it, sup- press the mischief and advance remedy?

relations, I mentioned the report. "Oh yes," said the ex- ecutive, "that's the report that today's paper says has rec- ommended an end to segre- gation." I opened my mouth to point out, say, that

the report that today's paper says has rec- ommended an end to segre- gation. I opened my mouth to point out, say, that

the report that today's paper says has rec- ommended an end to segre- gation. I opened my mouth to point out, say, that

An Historic Document

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa.
While the report and recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights contain nothing new, it does mark the first time that an official body, commissioned by the President of the United States, has gone so thoroughly into the whole field of civil rights and made such well-considered and far-reaching suggestions for the implementation of American democracy.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Workers Defense League and many other groups have been laboring for many years to bring about improvement in their field and eliminate the injustices and bottlenecks in our democracy, and their efforts have been attended with great success, but it is very obvious that there is a tremendous amount to be done.

The President's Committee on Civil Rights undoubtedly drew upon the vast experience and knowledge of workers in this field, and there were representatives of the larger organizations on the committee to aid in formulating the program. *Sat. 11-8-47*

Colored people especially are pleased at the forthright language of the report and the fundamental nature of the recommendations, and The Pittsburgh Courier, which has been in the forefront of the fight to make Washington, D. C., our Nation's capital, a truly democratic community, is gratified to note the recommendations of the committee with regard to the District of Columbia, which follow so closely the program of this newspaper.

Now that the committee has reported to the satisfaction of nearly everybody from the President down to the most obscure man on the street, it remains to be seen what will be done about the recommendations.

This historic document will remain just that unless it is implemented by Executive and legislative action, and the present would seem to be the very best time in which to do it.

There are those who will say that the time is not ripe for such a forthright program because too large a minority of Americans is opposed to it; but we think that the size of that minority is much exaggerated.

Actually there are very few of our citizens who are opposed to the bulk of the recommendations of the committee, although there are of course many professional rabble rousers to make a lot of noise and so give the impression that multitudes of whites are bitterly against the slightest concession toward freedom, justice and equality.

Behind the residential covenants, the poll taxers, the mob murderers, the economic discrimination and the other efforts to defeat democracy are just a few people who play upon fears, ignorance and tradition to swing a thousand times their number behind their obstructive tactics.

What is needed at this time is a bold course by the Federal Government, aided by a similar course backed by libertarians in each of the States, ignoring considerations of politics.

In a short time the United States can become a perfect democracy if there is only the will to implement the recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil

Rights NOW, and not hem and haw and dawdle and procrastinate until the public has forgotten all about it.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT

Baltimore, Md.
Coming at a time when the question of human rights is the most important one facing the nations of the world, the report of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights easily stands out as one of the most significant documents of all time.

The 178-page statement, which the 15-member committee presented to the President after ten months of study and discussion, may well become a sort of Magna Charta for democracy.

Members of the committee were drawn from all segments of American life. College presidents, industrialists, labor leaders of both AF of L and CIO, church leaders, social workers, attorneys, Jews, Catholics and colored Americans—all were represented.

All were agreed upon four rights essential to the citizen in a free society:

1. The right to safety and security of the person;
2. The right to citizenship and its privileges;
3. The right to freedom of conscience and expression, and
4. The right to equality of opportunity.

And in order to secure these rights, the committee made specific recommendations, all aimed at making men equal in "an essential dignity and integrity."

These recommendations, which place upon the Federal Government the responsibility for leadership in securing fundamental civil rights, do not, however, exclude the several States from their responsibility in this important matter, thus answering the objections of the States Righters to Federal intervention.

Further, they limit the matter of "social equality" to a man's home and take it out of public institutions, laying to rest at one fell swoop all of those hate-mongers who, at the drop of a hat, will launch into a harangue about "inter-marriage" the moment a suggestion is made about bringing different racial groups together.

Because this document will be widely quoted throughout the world, it is of immediate importance and its long range value cannot be estimated. Suffice it to say that it repeats what has been said in the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights of our Constitution and in the more recently formulated Four Freedoms.

But because it ties all of them up in one neat package, its impact is much more powerful. It calls for action NOW on such things as antilynching laws, anti-poll tax legislation, fair employment practices, opening primary and general elections to all citizens, prohibiting discrimination in interstate transportation and wiping out segregation and discrimination in the armed services, government services and the District of Columbia.

State legislatures are called upon to pass laws in keeping with Federal legislation and to set up law enforcement agencies comparable to the Federal Civil Rights Section. In short, the committee says clearly that we can't have a strong America, if we are divided.

America's self-interest and her hope for survival in a troubled and confused world, the committee believes, call for a re-examination—more searching than ever before—of the whole civil rights issue. President Truman shares this

remedial action. *11-8-47*
Equally, the President has earned the nation's gratitude for creating the committee. Many politicians, even many statesmen, have recognized as did Mr. TRUMAN that "all parts of our population are not equally free from fear" and that the "federal government (has) the duty to act when state or local authorities abridge or fail to protect... constitutional rights." But few of them have had the moral courage to take the lead in seeking remedial action. Mr. TRUMAN has such moral courage.

Views Of Report's Critics
The problem differently ap-
proach the President's committee speak
of the progress being made now, of the harm
reduction in lynchings, of the harm
"confusing the issue," of the
of laws by
of the South and of "the
that accounts for Ameri-
can state of mind"
the Bill of Rights of the U. S. Constitution. *11-8-47*
If this country now rejects and repudiates such a reaffirmation of faith in democratic living, after fighting two wars in one generation to preserve and spread democracy, it will make itself morally defenseless against the criticism and propaganda of other nations and peoples, thus weakening its useful influence in the world at a time when that influence is critically needed if the world, and itself, are not to be engulfed by chaos.
The committee deserves the gratitude of the American public and of the government for not minimizing our shortcomings and not evading the responsibility it had for recommending state of mind in the Declaration of Independence and particularly in the Bill of Rights of our Constitution. *11-8-47*
It is therefore up to Congress and to the several State governments to follow through from this point on. This is just another way of saying that the responsibility for securing these rights is that of every individual citizen. It is a challenge and a duty which we can ill afford to ignore—even for a day.
A Reaffirmation Of Faith
IT WAS to be expected that any forthright report on civil rights, any documentation of the shortcomings in the equal application of civil rights, would meet with a mixed reaction and be the source of controversial discussion and comment. Any sane thinking person cannot but realize, however, that the declarations of the committee are in truth but a reaffirmation of faith in all of those things we call "the American way" of life. They are, in addition, an indictment of the nation's failure to achieve anything like uniform realization of the democratic principles laid down in the Declaration of Independence and particularly in

ca's democratic shortcomings. There is possibly some merit in all of these points. However, those who come forward with them owe the public answers to other points, among them these:

(1) How valid is relative progress against the continuance of different degrees of democracy for different strata of the citizenship? *Not at all 11-12-47*

(2) If the total number of lynchings is declining, what of the number of horrible ones which still take place with the guilty going free because of legal technicalities, inept or cowardly enforcement, and (in the President's words) because of "weak and inadequate statutes" or the failure to "provide the Department of Justice with the tools to do the job." What of the travesties of justice that took place after the lynchings at Monroe, Ga., and Greenville, S. C., and the near-lynching at Jackson, N. C. *11-8-47*

(3) Wherein lies the confusion of issues? If our way of life entitles every man to freedom and equality but some are short-changed, the answer is to correct the situation. There can be no "confusion" about that, nor in advocating such correction. *Sat.*

(4) If any laws are imposed on any of our states, it will be by the will of a majority of the people's elected representatives in Congress. That surely is the democratic way. Are a minority of the states or a minority of the whole people to impose the dictatorship of its recalcitrant will upon the nation? *11-11-47*

(5) As to the present inequalities and proscriptions resulting from a state of mind among some of the people who wish to arrogate to themselves rights they would deny others, what of the state of mind of HITLER, who would have dominated the world with his "master race?" What of the state of the British mind that would have continued to subjugate the 13 original American colonies, but which did not prevail because great men in this land, both North and South, wanted freedom and created the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution?

By Albert Deutsch

Civil Rights Vital to Mental Health, Psychiatrists Declare

ASBURY PARK, N. J.

A vigorous indorsement of the recent report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights as an aid to mental health in America was voted unanimously yesterday by a leading psychiatric organization which closed its three-day meeting here.

The indorsement carried an implied warning that the indiscriminate witch-hunting epidemic now sweeping the Nation is creating what the President's Committee called a "state of near-hysteria," imperilling the emotional stability of citizens.

The Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry (GAP), comprising some 150 leading psychiatrists—all members of the American Psychiatric Assn.—declared in its resolution:

"The GAP welcomes the timely re-affirmation of the basic rights and the dignity of man contained in the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

"As psychiatrists, we are convinced that the protection of civil rights is vital to the mental health of our citizens. Experiences which result in frustration, insecurity, fear and hate undermine the mental health of individuals and create unhealthy relations between persons and groups."

Four Basic Rights 12-13-47 Listed As Vital

The social conditions necessary to insure mental health, the GAP statement continued, "require the full protection for all citizens" of the four basic rights defined by the President's Committee, namely:

- 1 The right to the safety and security of the person.
- 2 The right to citizenship and its privileges.
- 3 The right to freedom of conscience and expression.
- 4 The right to equality of opportunity.

"Because these rights affect mental health," the GAP declared, "we strongly urge the responsible governmental authorities promptly to take action to secure them to our citizens. At no time in our history has this been more important. All means of communication should be used to inform the public of the meaning of these rights and of the recommendations of the President's Committee intended to preserve them."

The GAP resolution reflects the growing concern of a great many psychiatrists, conservative and liberal, who have observed the rapid spread of the four great threats to emotional stability—fear, frustration, hate and insecurity—resulting from artificially whipped-up witch manias.

'Near Hysteria' May 11-13-47 Deteriorate into Panic



Deutsch

Many of these professional students of human behavior know how the present "near hysteria," as the President's Committee characterized the unwholesome emotional atmosphere, can sink into uncontrollable panic unless it is swiftly checked by a return to reason and fair play.

The kind of whipped-up mass hysteria that led sober New Englanders to hang a score of innocents as witches 250 years ago, following the delusional alarms of the Mathers and their ilk, can very easily transform a generally reasonable people into mobs of political witch-hunters, if the irresponsible rantings of the J. Parnell Thomas type of witch-finder get out of control.

The GAP resolution of yesterday was general in nature, confining itself solely to the report of the President's Committee. It contained no references to Congressional or other witch-hunts, but its application to present-day events is clearly implied.

The Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry is an informal organization of psychiatrists who meet periodically to discuss current problems of mental health, with a view toward speeding up solutions. It is headed by Dr. William C. Menninger of Topeka, wartime chief of the U. S. Army's psychiatric division, and president-elect of the American Psychiatric Assn. Its membership includes three ex-presidents of the American Psychiatric Assn.—Drs. Earl D. Bond, Arthur H. Ruggles and Edward A. Strecker. Other GAP members are Drs. Frederick H. Allen, Leo H. Bartemeier, Carl Binger, Francis J. Braceland, Malcolm J. Farrell, Robert H. Felix, Alan Gregg, Ives Hendrick, Robert P. Knight, John M. Murray, Thomas A. C. Rennie, George S. Stevenson and Stan A. Szurek.

What Other Papers Say—

Dependence Created Equal

(Reprinted from the N.Y. Times)

THE CENTRAL point in the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights is the reaffirmation of an old principle—one too often misunderstood, ignored and even jeered at in these days. This is, as Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence, that "all men are created equal." The words never meant that all men were equal in intelligence, physical strength or character. They meant that men were equal before the law. They have come to mean more: that men are equal, in the language of this report, in "an essential dignity and integrity." *Sat. 11-15-47*

Our predecessors did not live up to what they said. Some of them were slaveholders—and slaves were not treated as men or as equals. We are not living up to what is said now, as the Committee testifies, and as we all know. Minorities, in particular Negro minorities, are disfranchised, denied civil rights and subject to cruel and unusual punishments for crimes of which they have not been

duly convicted. Discriminations that are unconstitutional, illegal and contrary to American tradition prevail even in the District of Columbia, under federal rule. The situation there, "the Committee feels most deeply is intolerable."

The Committee makes bold recommendations, not all of which will get through Congress as long as the filibuster is permitted in the Senate. In the case of the poll tax, probably in the case of any attempt to pass a national Fair Employment Practices Act, the "right" to filibuster may prevail over equality before the law and equality of opportunity. We may even question whether equal rights—equality in employment; equality in education, including private, tax-exempt educational facilities; equality in health and medical services; equality in public accommodations where segregation is enforced—can be made real by any law in some communities. The ignorant must be taught. But we have made progress; in the armed services, in labor unions, in laws in Northern states, in fairer and more liberal treatment of the Negro American in various Southern states.

We can make more progress, in which the Federal Government, representing the whole people, must take increased responsibility. We can, as the Committee suggests, make defense of the individual's "dignity and integrity" an organized function of the Department of Justice, of committees in Congress and of a standing executive commission. We need no new tradition. We need not go beyond Jefferson's noble words. We need to accept in fulness, for modern conditions, an old tradition, that men should not be discriminated against for race, religion or belief. We owe this to ourselves, individually and collectively. We owe it to our position in the world: "The United States is not so strong, the final triumph of the democratic ideal so inevitable that we can ignore what the world thinks of us on our record."

With freedom and equality goes responsibility. The Committee might have underlined this truth more even than it did. We have a right to demand that enemies of our democratic system disclose themselves and their sources of revenue. But in the last analysis, in Congressional hearings or elsewhere, it is better that one man be allowed to abuse his freedom than that another be wrongly deprived of it.

Leaders Organized To End Jim Crow

Defender
Chicago Ill. Sat. 12-27-47
RICHMOND--Over 250 Negro leaders of Virginia last week formed a coordinating organization here to implement the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights in the first such statewide action of its kind in the South. *Defender Chicago Ill*

Called together by an interim committee of 250, Negro leaders of the NAACP, the Urban League, teachers, church and fraternal groups created the Virginia Civil Rights' Organization and named Dr. Harry P. Penn its chairman. The new group's first action was a blanket endorsement of the Truman Rights group report. *Sat. 12-27-47*

Then a 14-point resolution was adopted, specifically attacking segregation on public carriers, in public school and assemblies. Feeling strongly that political action would be its most effective weapon, the new organization singled out those particular areas as in which it could successfully demand repeal of Virginia jim crow statutes by the state legislature which convenes next month.

The conference heard an analysis of the Negro's political strength in the state given by Dr. Luther Jackson of Virginia Union college who estimated that 55,000 Negroes had paid their poll taxes and about 40,000 had registered and were eligible to vote.

Rights And Duties

In A Democracy *Journalist Guide*

The Virginia Organization For Civil Rights Striving To Wipe Out Segregation

Richmond, Va.
Sat. 12-27-47
By LUTHER P. JACKSON

WRITE THIS TIME about the Virginia Organization of Civil Rights which made its bow to the public in a state-wide mass meeting in Richmond, Virginia, on Monday, December 15th, at the Leigh Street Methodist Church. What is the VOCR? Strictly speaking this is a new-born organization, but broadly speaking it is a mature body since it merely brings together in a federation a host of other bodies who have either been work-

ing or have been interested in civil rights for Negroes for a long time. *12-27-47*

It has drawn into its fold the Virginia NAACP with its state conference and eighty-five branches; the Virginia Teachers Association with its executive committee and 5,000 members; and the Elks with their sixty or more lodges and temples and thousands of members. It has done likewise with the entire outfit of the Negro Organization Society, with the organizations of professional men and women, and with those Negroes engaged in business enterprise. Identifying themselves also with this all-inclusive organization are the many chapters of the college fraternities and sororities. A long list this is, but in fact it is longer still.

WHAT IS THE VOCR SEEKING to accomplish? On a long-term basis it seeks to abolish racial segregation in all of its forms; on a short term basis it seeks to destroy the monster in the area of transportation on common carriers (buses, trains, etc.), and in the area of seating arrangements in public assembly.

Following the tactics of thousands of reform organizations in ages past, the VOCR experts to attain these goals by legislative action, that is, by having bills introduced in the coming session of the General Assembly of Virginia in January, 1948, to repeal the existing laws on these subjects.

The first of these, the famous Jim Crow car law, was enacted by this body in 1900; the second, the famous (or infamous) Massenburg bill, was introduced and enacted in 1926. Thus we shall be asking this honorable body to undo in 1948 that which was done not so many years ago.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE MASSENBURG LAW are of such interest that they deserve quoting in part. This law commands that "It shall be the duty of any person, firm or institution conducting any public hall . . . or any place of public entertainment or assemblage which is attended by both white and colored persons, to separate the white race and the colored race, and to set apart and designate in each public place of public entertainment or assemblage, certain seats to be occupied by white persons and certain by colored persons . . ."

Failure to comply with these provisions is a misdemeanor and may be ejected from the place, and if he has paid admission, he shall not be entitled to a return of any part of the same.

It was on the strength of this law that a colored man was convicted in a Richmond court very recently for refusing to change his seat among white persons at the Mosque to a colored section at the Robeson concert. The court found him guilty, but, strange to say, postponed sentence in his case.

12-27-47
WILL THE VOCR SUCCEED IN ITS legislative effort, or will it fail? My guess is that it will succeed or certainly enjoy a larger measure of success than any other organized body of Negroes which has ever preceded it. One difficulty heretofore has been action by one group, by one individual, or by one institution, business or otherwise.

This time it is not one little group seeking to go before the legislators, but a mass of organizations actually coming before them. Success with any undertaking is determined heavily by the number of failures in that undertaking in years gone by.

Success is likewise determined by the amount of public sentiment which prevails in a community favorable to the object in view.

These points I shall have to reserve for detailed treatment in this column next week or some time later. In the meantime I extend to my readers a merry Christmas and a happy new year. I wish that they may hear some good Christmas music, have some fun, and plenty of rest.